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South Edmonton Commons
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Southgate Centre
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702-6001

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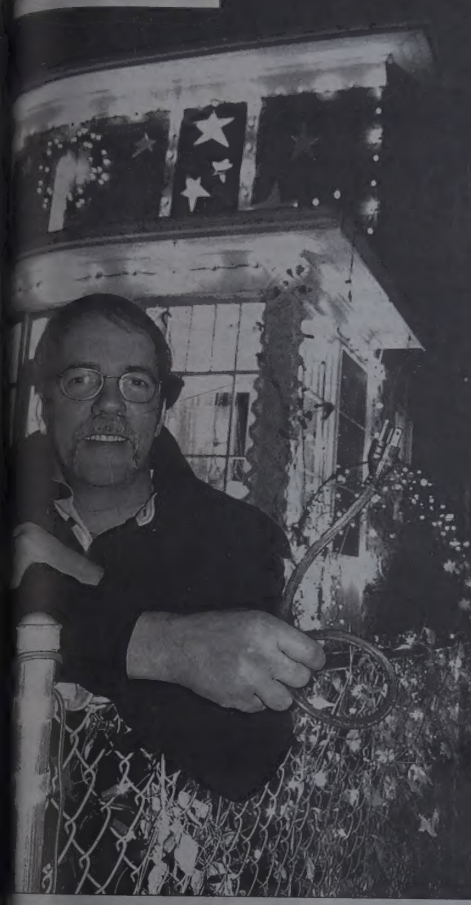

Tom Booth
Computer guy/ Christmas light enthusiast

There seems to be a disproportionate amount of houses decorated on this block compared to others...
It started as a running competition between myself and the guy across the street. We'd have a glass of wine on the decks when we turned on the lights, and it just kind of expanded. Most of the other people on the block got into the spirit of it. It's been going on about 10 years.

But we all know the Grinch [a larger than life-size display on the neighbour's lawn] is kind of a cheat. It's fully inflatable; you just buy it and put it up. Christmas lights takes a *knack* to get everything done right—you have to work with the house to make it sit right and look right.

You mentioned you tried to adhere to the Kyoto accord...
I bought some LED lights, and I was willing to implement LED lights, but then I got a phone call from CostCo about two weeks before I put them up, and they were recalled. So I had to unplug them and return them to get my money back.

Salutation of choice: Merry Christmas or Happy Holidays?
Happy holidays probably, although I am more of a Christmas guy. I also deep fry a turkey—if you want to see some fun on Christmas day, drop by. But I guess it's happy holidays—that's what it is, a holiday. I'm not really a religious guy.

[Unsolicited final comment]
The guy across the street uses those wussy LED lights—he never turns them off and his bill doesn't even go up.

ZOLTAN VARADI

side

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SEE magazine

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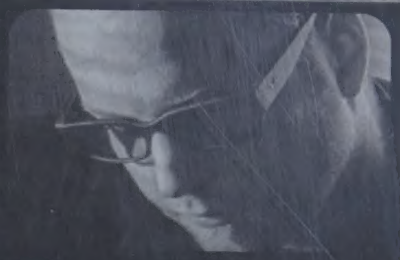
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letters

YESS, ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE

In reading Mark Wells' article entitled "On the edge of the system" (December 8), I was interested in the misconceptions about the Youth Emergency Shelter Society's programs and would appreciate the opportunity to clarify them.

In May of 2004, after two years of research (which included surveying youth who both utilized our services and those who did not; stake holders, and other youth serving agencies), we restructured all of our programs in order to better meet the needs of the youth based on what they themselves told us. As a result, we now have three residential programs and one community based program. At this time, we added the new Shelter Program as we had learned from the kids themselves that they simply wanted a place to stay over night and their basic needs meet (food, shelter, clothing, transportation).

To state that youth are "kicked out" in the morning is a bad use of semantic. This program closes in the morning and youth are informed upon intake. While they are with us, they have the opportunity to have a shower (we provide all personal care items), a meal and they get a bed for the night. Staff will also do one load of laundry for them. In the morning, they get breakfast and a bus ticket and can take lunch with them. We also provide clothing and footwear if they need it. Our Outreach Worker and Shelter Program staff provide them with resources and referrals. Our Program Supervisor also meets with them to see what their needs are. It's interesting to note that approximately 30 per cent of the youth who access this program work or go to school or other day programs each day.

Each winter we survey them to see what they desire in terms of hours and for the majority of them this means simply adjusting our weekend hours to let them leave at 10:00 a.m. Also, in extreme cold, the youth are offered the opportunity to stay in, in our SkY Program and we bring in additional staff. So far there have been no takers. The young woman quoted in the article says that she could not stay in touch with her social worker because she didn't have a phone. Yet youth in the Shelter Program are offered the use of the phone to call Social Workers or family. They are also allowed to stay later to receive return calls from the Social Worker or to wait to attend meetings such as court dates.

In Mr. Wells' article he states "A year ago the shelter was open all day to as many youth as could be accommodated…" — this is not the case. The old Shelter Program, which I believe he is referring to, was based on case plans for each child and these included finding a viable day program such as school, work, addictions counseling or life skills training. Any youth around during the day would be in the process of securing a program or on days off from a program.

I find it disconcerting that Wallace Kendall states that Y.E.S.S. is "nothing more than a cog in the wheel." For the past 23 years, we have provided excellent service to youth at risk. As our programs are all voluntary, there are no constraints. However the programs have been developed to help the kids–not simply house them.

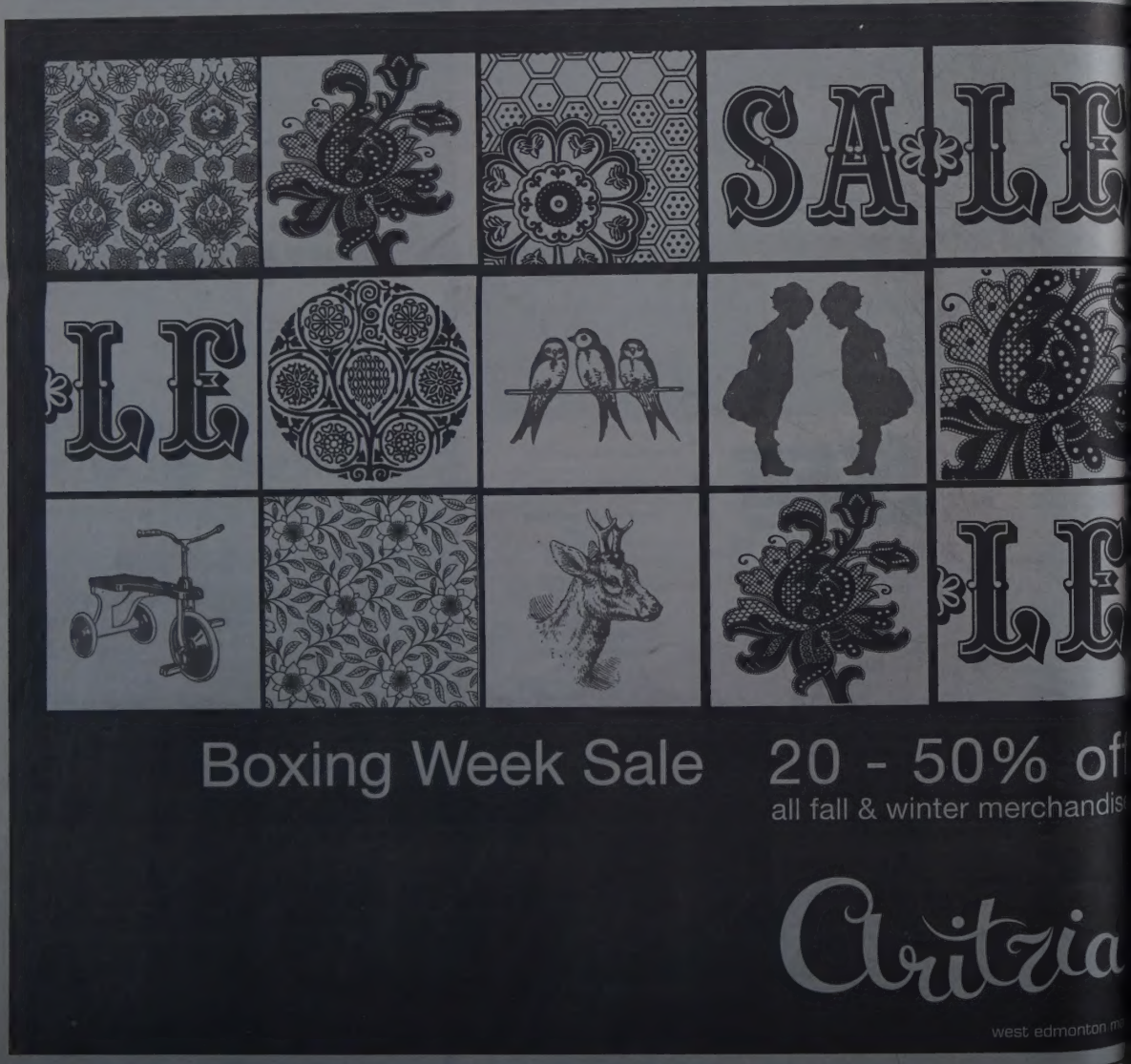
Mr. Kendall is further quoted as staying that his program iHuman is a place where youth can stay during the day–with no expectations attached. While iHuman provides this service, there are many services provided by Y.E.S.S. that iHuman does not provide. No agency can provide everything–nor should services be duplicated. Youth who utilize the service of the Shelter Program are given the names of organizations that provide somewhere for then to be during the day.

Mr. Kendall also states that "referrals to mental health experts, addictions treatment and housing agencies were often arranged but never as a condition of getting out of the weather and staying warm." Y.E.S.S. also provides these referrals also without utilizing them as a condition of intake.

The article concludes with Mr. Kendall stating "Yeah, the [Yo… Emergency] shelter's not func… ing…." That statement is obvi… misleading and inaccurate wh… considers the nearly 1000 you… have utilized our services ove… past years. It is interesting tha… Kendall is quoted so much in… to the Youth Emergency Shelt… ety but has yet to come to mee… our Program Manger or have… of our service. We would wel… the opportunity to discuss our… grams with Mr. Kendall and e… our invitation to him.

Articles such as this one wh… represent and inaccurately des… the programs and services pro… by Y.E.S.S. are detrimental to t… work that we do with youth a… and insulting to our staff, volu… and donors who are committe… helping these young people ta… towards a healthier, more pos… future.

De…
Executive…
Youth Emergency Shelt…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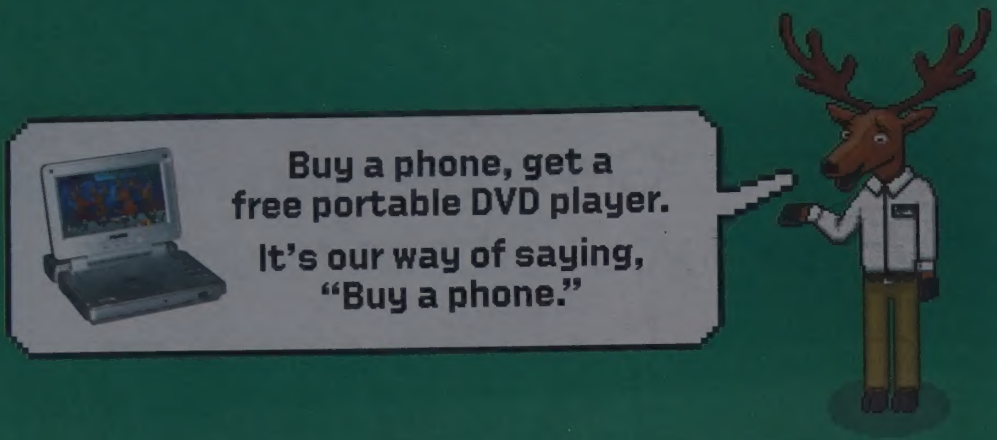

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MARC DENCE

mas Shoppers, West Edmonton Mall, Tuesday Afternoon

Message from the Editor

A WEEK FROM TODAY, *SEE* MAGAzine's tenuous connection with Hollinger International will end. After a taxing two-year negotiation, our local owners will extricate themselves from an uncomfortable relationship with the company once controlled by Conrad Black.

This news has prompted celebration in the *SEE* office—despite the fact that, in all practical ways, little is going to change for us. We're still going to enjoy the enviable editorial independence that sound management and hands-off philosophy affords. We'll continue to be locally owned and operated. *SEE* will still be a forum for voices and perspectives infrequently heard in other media. And... we'll still be proudly local, relying on Edmonton writers and photographers for well over 90 per cent of our content.

If nothing's changing, you ask, why are we celebrating?

However distant our connection to Lord Black, he casts a long shadow. We've never received editorial direction via letter, email, phone call, scrawled note, wink, or whisper from anyone at Hollinger—or from our local owners, for that matter. Now, we're hopeful that, at long last, people will judge our work and our intentions by what we put on the page.

We hope your New Year is as happy as ours promises to be.

KEVIN WILSON
EDITOR
SEE MAGAZINE

IN BRIEF

MARK WELLS

CHANGE

Magazine has severed all ties ollinger International. In a uck this week, Jamison pers Inc. acquired er's 70 per cent holding in rent company, Great West per Group Ltd. In a subsedeal, the St. Albert-based Jamison family sold a 50 per cent economic interest in Great West to Glacier Ventures International Corp.

The deal ends all affiliations to former Hollinger chief Conrad Black, who will face charges of fraud, obstruction of justice and racketeering in a Federal US court March 5, 2007. While Black never directed the operations of Great West, the former economic relationship between the two companies has fueled accusations that papers in the Great West group are neither independent nor Canadian.

Glacier is an information communications company specializing in print and electronic media. Glacier is in exclusive discussions with Hollinger to acquire the company's other remaining Canadian interests.

Duff Jamison will retains majority voting control over Great West Newspapers. *SEE* Magazine will continue to be locally owned and operated.

HIP JOINT APPROACH BEATS THE ODDS

Alberta Health Minister Iris Evans inadvertantly stoked the private-public health care debate Monday by releasing preliminary findings from the Alberta Hip and Knee Replacement Pilot Project.

Waiting time results from the eight-month-old project show the public health care system can deliver services drastically faster than is presently the case. Average wait times for hip and knee replacement surgery have dropped from 47 weeks to 4.7 weeks with the new approach. Post-surgery hospital stays were also reduced from 6.2 to 4.3 days.

NDP leader Brian Mason pounced on the findings. Noting Edmonton's Capital Health Region performed 277 surgeries versus 180 in the Calgary Health Region, which contracted the private Health Resource Centre to perform the surgeries, Mason said the public system clearly outperformed the private system.

"Wait times can be reduced, but only if governments show leadership by innovating within the public system. The centralized wait list registry is an example of innovation, and the Minister should be doing more of it, and abandoning privatization experiments that clearly don't deliver," Mason said.

The pilot project, planned for the last two years, officially got underway in March. The system takes a "patient-centred" approach to treatment, making operating space available, and scheduling physician's time in anticipation of demand for services by patients on waiting lists.

MEMORIAL FOR EDMONTON'S DEAD HOMELESS

The Edmonton Coalition on Housing and Homelessness (ECOH) held the first annual memorial service for Edmontonians whose deaths can be linked to inadequate housing or homelessness on Wednesday.

Contacted Tuesday ECOH vice-chair Lorette Garrick didn't have an exact figure for the number of deaths attributed to homelessness, but said it was "significant," and more than last.

"The average age [of the deceased] is 40, and their deaths are a direct result of living on the streets for many years," she said.

Garrick commended the city for being "proactive" with housing programs over the years but said the provincial government needs to boost its contribution in order to save lives.

She said shortages affordable housing need to be fixed, but that other social programs also need better funding since the homeless often suffer addictions, and serious mental and physical health problems.

The memorial was held at Sacred Heart Church in downtown Edmonton and attended by representatives from the coalition of 30 community groups involved with housing and housing services, and concerned members of the public.

"You have to look at the whole continuum, from their point of entry, straight across the board to being self-sufficient," Garrick said. "Building more housing, that has to happen for sure, but we also need operating dollars for other support systems."

MARK WELLS

rant acid

Shake my booties

you needed boots. That's so sad. Your feet must have been really cold. I have ense of just how fucking cold your feet must have been, because that's how cold t are now, thanks to your brilliant DIY strategy for bootlessness. I guess it was oolish of me to think that a fellow human being could keep his/her paws off my if I left them outside my apartment door... oh, except that a person used to be o do just that, before Edmonton became a "big city," with all the attendant sophis- n of big city life, including the sense that because you're living on the mean streets own that private property is fair game. Why, our status as a world-class city is ically calling out for people to turn into selfish bastards like you. Unfortunately for you decided to steal boots that make your feet sweat. I should know. I sweated in for years. Happy walking, prick.

Toeing the line

Clear your throat:
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ELECTION X 2006

Each week until election day on January 23, *SEE* Magazine will have a guest pose a question for the candidates in one riding. Myles Kitagawa of Toxics Watch Society is our inquisitor this week.

Myles Kitagawa asks: "What will your party do to end the direct and indirect subsidies to polluting, non-renewable energy developments and transition Canada to sustainable (clean, renewable, low greenhouse gas emission) energy sources?"

Peter Goldring, Conservative:
The question is misleading by implying oil and gas development receives subsidies while alternate energy sources do not. It is also misleading by suggesting that oil and gas usage is harmful to the environment while alternate energy sources are not.

The fact is that as a cold, northern nation, Canada needs massive and reliable sources of energy for electricity, heat, and transportation. It is critical that we implement energy policies that work in the real world while striving to minimize pollution and negative effects on the environment.

We are still decades away from being able to replace fossil fuels as a major energy source. Cleaning up fossil fuel powered electrical generating stations with modern technology is the best approach in the short term. Wind, solar, ethanol, and other alternative energy sources are not yet practical large-scale options for Canada and they may never be since each present severe environmental problems.

Worldwide, wind turbines kill tens of millions of birds, many of them large and endangered migratory species, yet wind turbines provide relatively small amounts of electricity.

Large solar power stations require years of pollution-intensive construction to assemble, and then destroy the habitats of animals over vast areas. Presently, solar plants have the potential to contribute only small amounts of intermittent power to our national electricity grid.

Large-scale ethanol use is environmentally destructive because ethanol takes more energy to produce than it delivers and requires massive amounts of pesticides and herbicides in production.

There are no easy answers, but the Conservative Party of Canada promotes a diverse, balanced energy portfolio—oil, natural gas, hydro, nuclear and clean coal—while continuing to encourage research and development into alternative energy forms that may someday make significant contributions to our energy needs.

Trey Capnerhurst, Green:
The following ideas are from the Green Party platform, to be officially released in the New Year.

■ Shift taxes on fossil fuels to earlier points in the production cycle to encourage competition among companies to lower operating costs while reducing emissions.

■ Use revenue from tradable pollution permits to offset tax breaks for increasing energy efficiency and industry initiatives that reduce fuel consumption.

■ Enforce a mandatory target of 25 per cent better fuel efficiency for the automobile industry and increase standards over the next 5 years.

■ Employ incentives to increase the percentage of ethanol content in gasoline and the availability of other biofuels.

■ End all federal subsidies to fossil fuel sectors.

■ Coordinate with the provinces a $1.5 billion investment to build 10,000 MW of renewable energy capacity by 2010.

■ Redirect National Research Council and Industry Canada research and development programs towards renewable, alternative, and soft energy technologies that will reduce fossil fuel consumption and phase out nuclear power.

■ Expand existing and institute new energy conservation strategies as a cheaper alternative to new power plants.

■ Assist provincial governments in designing, implementing, and monitoring improved energy efficiency programs, through the Office of Energy Efficiency

■ Work with provinces to accelerate and to facilitate the connection of renewable systems to the electrical grid so as to add a million small suppliers of clean energy.

■ Amend clauses in trade agreements to enable Canada to protect natural resources and foster fair trade for clean energy technologies.

n Improve Canadian energy security by implementing a plan to address the economic consequences of higher oil prices.

■ Increase capital cost allowance for green technology such as solar, geothermal, tidal and hydrogen fuel cell development

■ Work with the provinces and municipalities to promote and support alternative energy initiatives such as sewage co-generation.

Nicole Martel, Liberal:
As an Alberta Liberal, I believe in balancing responsible environmental stewardship with developing Alberta's vast energy resources. We must take responsible steps towards a clean energy future. The Liberal government has a realistic yet aggressive $10 billion plan to curb greenhouse gas emissions. Our plan was recognized as a model by world leaders (the U.S. being a notable exception) at the recent Montreal Climate Change Conference.

Let's face facts: running a modern, cold-climate economy with a decent quality of life requires energy, and it could take 25 years to discover a complete replacement for fossil-fuels. Until alternative energy sources become economically viable, we will still need fossil fuels. For that reason, I ssupport the job-producing expansion of the Athabasca Oil-sands.

We face a three-fold challenge in energy use. I would work to:

■ Fund and adopt research innovations enabling the efficient and environmentally sound use of fossil fuels, like clean coal technology and CO2 sequestration.

■ Establish stronger incentives encouraging individuals and businesses to reduce energy consumption.

■ Make Alberta the world leader in alternative, clean energy sources like geothermal, wind, and solar power.

The Liberal government has already taken steps in these directions. Over $1 billion in federal investments promote the use of wind power, renewable electricity capacity, and ethanol production. $4 billion has been committed to initiatives like the Energuide for Houses Program, providing Canadians with rebates for energy-conserving home renovations. A further $5 billion for the Climate Fund Agency will help businesses invest in products that lower greenhouse gas emissions.

I will work to have the federal government involve all Canadian in the push for clean air, clean water, clean land, and energy use that preserves the climate for the generations that follow us. Our challenge is to provide responsible leadership for both today and for the future.

Arlene Chapman, NDP:
As part of the Jack Layton's federal NDP team, I believe that the continued push by Paul Martin's Liberals and Stephen Harper's Conserv in favour of fossil fuel extrac not sustainable, either econom or environmentally.

Non-renewable conventio and natural gas production h peaked and is now in irrever decline. Instead of giving mo porate tax breaks to these po energy sources, the NDP wo focus on energy conservation investment in renewables.

The NDP is the only major party firmly committed to re Canada's dependency on fos and implementing a realistic meet our Kyoto obligations. Martin talks a good game, bu reality is that Canada's gree gas emissions have increased over 24 per cent since 1990, a cantly worse record than the Stephen Harper has vowed t up Kyoto.

The federal NDP opposes porate tax cuts for big energy panies being advocated by the als and Conservatives. We w also re-negotiate tax and royalty giveaways for new oil sands projects that are clearly no longer needed.

The NDP would then apply those savings to make ener ciency improvements and de clean renewable energy sou Specific initiatives include:

■ setting legally binding em ceilings for large industrial p n fighting smog by adopting air standards for new vehicle alent to those in California s the development of low and emission green vehicles

■ investing in mass transit s and low emission buses. Ma sit passes tax-deductible to e rider ship and reduce conge n making major investments retro-fitting existing homes office buildings

■ providing incentives for t chase of energy efficient fur and appliances

n investing in the developm clean renewable sources of e including wind, solar, renew fuels and run of the river hy

The NDP is your best cho transitioning to a clean ren energy future.

REWIND

MARK WELLS

Thursday, December 15—Gun shop owners in Edmonton have seen handgun sales boom ever since Prime Minister Paul Martin stated his intention to ban the weapons outright if reelected, the CBC reports. Martin's plan was seen largely as a move to appease Toronto-dwellers concerned by the 50 gun killings in their city this year. Martin said western provinces could choose to opt out of the ban.

Friday, December 16—The Edmonton Police Commission settles a $1.5 million wrongful dismissal suit launched by former chief Fred Rayner for $500,000, keeping the deliberations that led to his firing out of court, and therefore out of the public record. The lawsuit alleged former Commission chair Martin Ignasiak had an agenda against Rayner, from the day the chief was hired, and had acted in bad faith following the *Edmonton Journal*'s exposé on an EPS sting operation targeted at Ignasiak and *Edmonton Sun* columnist Kerry Diotte.

Saturday, December 17—The Global Action Network celebrates a win in the campaign to end the sale of furs in Canada. The activist organization pressured clothier Jacob to go fur-free in over 200 Canadian retail locations after threatening to mount a national boycott. The group also conducted an undercover investigation in China that found many "rabbit" furs exported from that country were actually dog and cat fur.

Monday, December 18—California Republican Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger demands his home city Graz, Austria remove his name from their soccer stadium and announces he will return a "ring of honour" given to him by the city. Arnie's bile was inspired by a Graz resident's petition to remove his name from the stadium after the Governator refused to grant Stan "Tookie" William clemency from the death penalty.

Sunday, December 19—Bolivian politician Evo Morales wins the presidency of his country, becoming the first native to gain the office. Morales is seen as a threat by the United States because of his support for peasant farmers who depend on coca crops for their livelihood, and his friendly relationship with Venezuelan leader Hugo Chavez and Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

Tuesday, December 20—Russian archivists unearth records detailing former Communist dictator Joseph Stalin's plans to create an army of human-ape hybrids. The reports. In the mid-1920s, Sta Moscow newspaper, "I want a ne ble human being, resistant and about the quality of the food Unsurprisingly, the cross-breed ments failed, including trials wh humans with monkey semen.

Wednesday, December 21—RC the loss of retired officer Mark Bo died of a gunshot wound to the on Tuesday. Bourque was working United Nations Stabilization Missi training police officers to secure tions for January elections—the country since former President Be tide was either abducted from ister Pierre Pettigrew says his de investigating Bourque's death.

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ACTIVE CITIZEN

ULTRA-CONSERVATIVES HAVE TO ADMIT ...king a bicycle is a good thing to do ... environment and for a person's ... people choose to bicycle commute ...riety of reasons and they should not ... this choice.

...ge to car/truck drivers—it is not a ...sponsibility to get out of your way, ...sponsibility to drive your 2,000 ... vehicle SAFELY around them! If the ... your way," cool it! They are not ...making you late. If you left enough ... comfortably get to your destination ...u wouldn't be so anxious with the ...y getting there. Is arriving at your ...on possibly on time reason enough ...an or cause a cyclist (or pedestrian) ...y why?

...week an experienced cyclist was ...r our roadways. It seemed that the ...son why his death was highlighted ...edia was because it caused a seri... delay for traffic. I am sure the ...ould have chosen to die at a nicer ...on in the middle of the asphalt, run ...y two vehicles, and at a different ...ously at some distant future date so ...ould spend more time with his fami...ends.

...forget that a cyclist has the same ...d responsibilities as every other ...on the roadway. Please, give cyclist's ...e they can safely share the roadway

...are plans to erect a memorial for ... Check out tinyurl.com/a8mf6 to ...ea about what might happen and ...ega@interbaun.com or 439-8725 ...information.

...r chilly news, there will be a federa...on in January 2006. If you want to ...government that reflects your beliefs ...n then you need to get out and ... Remember to Vote your Hopes— ...Fears!

...out who is running in your area, ...e are town hall meetings and turn ...them hear what YOU want to see ... Check out tinyurl.com/c5c4s for ...dates in the Edmonton Area.

...can also help make the government ...presentative of the popular vote by ...ic ans you want to see proportion...representation in future elections. ... www.fairvote.ca to get a more in...on the issue.

...of the main issues (still) of public ...s health care. Check out the latest ...m the Canadian Centre for Policy ...es: Public Solution to Health Care ... at tinyurl.com/azjwu and the ...institute's Op-Ed piece "On Health ...ken Harper Doesn't Walk the ...ent.com/b3rg4) to see how the ...ock up.

...y of health, Mother Nature could ...check-up. Read the article at ...yyw to see what we could do ...capitalist world with an eco...use what good is an econo... you don't have a healthy planet ...on?

MICHAEL KALMONVITCH

...l Kalmonvitch is propietor of Earth's General Store and publishes an ...newsletter listing events concerned with ...environmental and social justice issues.

...what you've ...onesin' for.

...JONESIN' CROSSWORD

Rumsfeld's handshake deal

Media not interested in his support of Saddam

CHRISTMAS CAME 11 DAYS EARLY FOR Donald Rumsfeld two years ago when the news broke that American forces had pulled Saddam Hussein from a spidery hole. During interviews about the capture, on CBS and ABC, the Pentagon's top man was upbeat. And he didn't have to deal with a question that Lesley Stahl or Peter Jennings could have logically chosen to ask: "Secretary Rumsfeld, you met with Saddam almost exactly 20 years ago and shook his hand. What kind of guy was he?"

Now, Saddam Hussein has gone on trial, but such questions remain unasked by mainstream U.S. journalists. Rumsfeld met with Hussein in Baghdad on behalf of the Reagan administration, opening up strong diplomatic and military ties that lasted through six more years of Saddam's murderous brutality.

As it happens, the initial trial of Saddam and co-defendants is focusing on grisly crimes that occurred the year before Rumsfeld gripped his hand. "The first witness, Ahmad Hassan Muhammad, 38, riveted the courtroom with the scenes of torture he witnessed after his arrest in 1982, including a meat grinder with human hair and blood under it," the New York Times reported Tuesday. And: "At one point, Mr. Muhammad briefly broke down in tears as he recalled how his brother was tortured with electrical shocks in front of their 77-year-old father."

A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE

The victims were Shiites—143 men and adolescent boys, according to the charges—tortured and killed in the Iraqi town of Dujail after an assassination attempt against Saddam in early July of 1982. Donald Rumsfeld became the Reagan administration's Middle East special envoy 15 months later.

On Dec. 20, 1983, the Washington Post reported that Rumsfeld "visited Iraq in what U.S. officials said was an attempt to bolster the already improving U.S. relations with that country." A couple of days later, the New York Times cited a "senior American official" who "said that the United States remained ready to establish full diplomatic relations with Iraq and that it was up to the Iraqis."

On March 29, 1984, the Times reported: "American diplomats pronounce themselves satisfied with relations between Iraq and the United States and suggest that normal diplomatic ties have been restored in all but name." Washington had some goodies for Saddam's regime, the Times account noted, including "agricultural-commodity credits totaling $840 million." And while "no results of the talks have been announced" after the Rumsfeld visit to Baghdad three months earlier "Western European diplomats assume that the United States now exchanges some intelligence on Iran with Iraq."

A few months later, on July 17, 1984, a Times article with a Baghdad dateline sketchily filled in a bit more information, saying that the U.S. government "granted Iraq about $2 billion in commodity credits to buy food over the last two years." The story recalled that "Donald Rumsfeld, the former Middle East special envoy, held two private meetings with the Iraqi president here," and the dispatch mentioned in passing that "State Department human rights reports have been uniformly critical of the Iraqi President, contending that he ran a police state."

FULL DIPLOMATIC JACKET

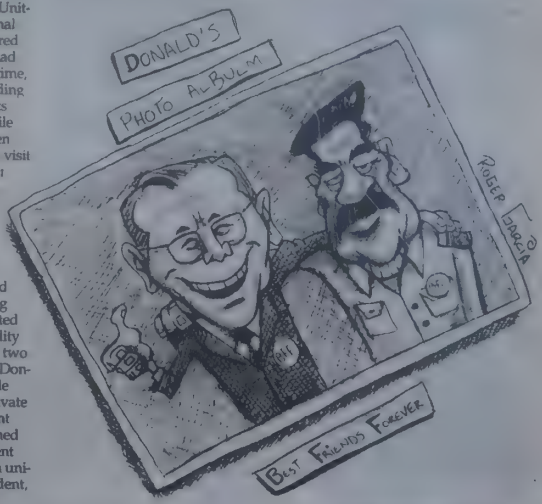
Full diplomatic relations between Washington and Baghdad were restored 11 months after Rumsfeld's December 1983 visit with Saddam. He went on to use poison gas later in the decade, actions which scarcely harmed relations with the Reagan administration.

As the most senior U.S. official to visit Iraq in six years, Rumsfeld had served as Reagan's point man for warming relations with Saddam. In 1984, the administration engineered the sale to Baghdad of 45 ostensibly civilian-use Bell 214ST helicopters. Saddam's military found them quite useful for attacking Kurdish civilians with poison gas in 1988, according to U.S. intelligence sources. "In response to the gassing," journalist Jeremy Scahill has pointed out, "sweeping sanctions were unanimously passed by the U.S. Senate that would have denied Iraq access to most U.S. technology. The measure was killed by the White House."

The USA's big media institutions did little to illuminate how Washington and business interests combined to strengthen and arm Saddam Hussein during many of his worst crimes. "In the 1980s and afterward, the United States underwrote 24 American corporations so they could sell to Saddam Hussein weapons of mass destruction, which he used against Iran, at that time the prime Middle Eastern enemy of the United States," writes Ben Bagdikian, a former assistant managing editor of the Washington Post, in his book The New Media Monopoly. "Hussein used U.S.-supplied poison gas" against Iranians and Kurds "while the United States looked the other way."

Of course the crimes of the Saddam Hussein regime were not just in the future when Rumsfeld came bearing gifts in 1983. Saddam's large-scale atrocities had been going on for a long time. Among them were the methodical torture and

See Rummy, page 12



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A liberation from Bush

Freedom fries in the face of American record

I DO FEEL SORRY FOR GEORGE BUSH. Well, except for the hundreds of little inconsistencies over the years, outright lies, doublespeak, slander, taking advantage of 9-11, ridiculous "math" to benefit his richest donors, mishandling of Katrina, religious crusading and decisions that led to the outright destruction of somewhere between 32,000 and 100,000+ souls since the war was "over" in 2003—depending on if you believe him or, uh, trained British scientists keeping tabs. Numbers, to repeat, the U.S. military is not specifically accounting for. We don't concentrate on the negative over in the free world's control rooms, after all (if it doesn't help the cause). Even so, the terrible running joke is that seven out of ten Iraqis polled think things are improving, largely because the other three are dead or in complete shock and morphine hallucinations.

Anyway, besides all that, I feel bad for Bush's numbers slipping *after* his moment of greatest honesty—when he finally said "I am responsible" for the war, and stated plainly that he sold the cause on WMD and found nothing to back him up. Oh, and that he would have invaded Iraq, either way, given a chance. Hey man, at least it's the truth.

The Net satellite talk radio hosts were publicly jizzing last week as Iraqi citizens voted in their parliamentary elections, filling 275 seats largely by ethnic divisions, but still having one thing in common between them: almost every candidate made promises to boot the U.S.

HIDDEN NINJA
FISH GRIWKOWSKY

out of Dodge-dad, ASAP. "Liberation is the most important thing for all Iraqis," said Sunni grocer Omar Badry. "I don't care if we die of thirst and hunger, as long as the Americans leave." This is a fact unmentioned in a series of Mr. Bush's speeches to re-justify and retrofit his actions, beg for Nixon's famous "sacrifice" and savagely attack anyone who disagreed with him as being dangerous and unpatriotic after first stating it was OK, "I understand." Seriously, within one speech.

Yet: "Where are the liberal critics now? They're totally silent!" one Tennessee raver yelled into the microphone, his acidic spit flying out and burning holes in the patriotic carpet, down through the floor to hell. And for once, I have to agree with the Limbaugh clones. The partisan detractors were too busy being selfishly horrified at the mainstreaming of a wiretap policy that once ousted another Republican president.

But it seems like no one had a good rebuttal to the fact that 11 million people got out and put their faith in a democratic system, forced on them at familiar gunpoint, aiding and abetting corporate empire. For while France boosted the rebels in their fight against the British during the American Revolution, Parisian troops never climbed up any Boston monuments and draped their flags over them, then shot burning phosphorous into hideouts, human contents unknown.

So is Iraq being ungrateful by wanting the Americans out? Or do you think maybe all those folks voting might fathom why they're out there, risking their lives by massing in public? Namely, to test the merit of this "democracy" they've been promised in U.S.-government implanted stories in their newspapers.

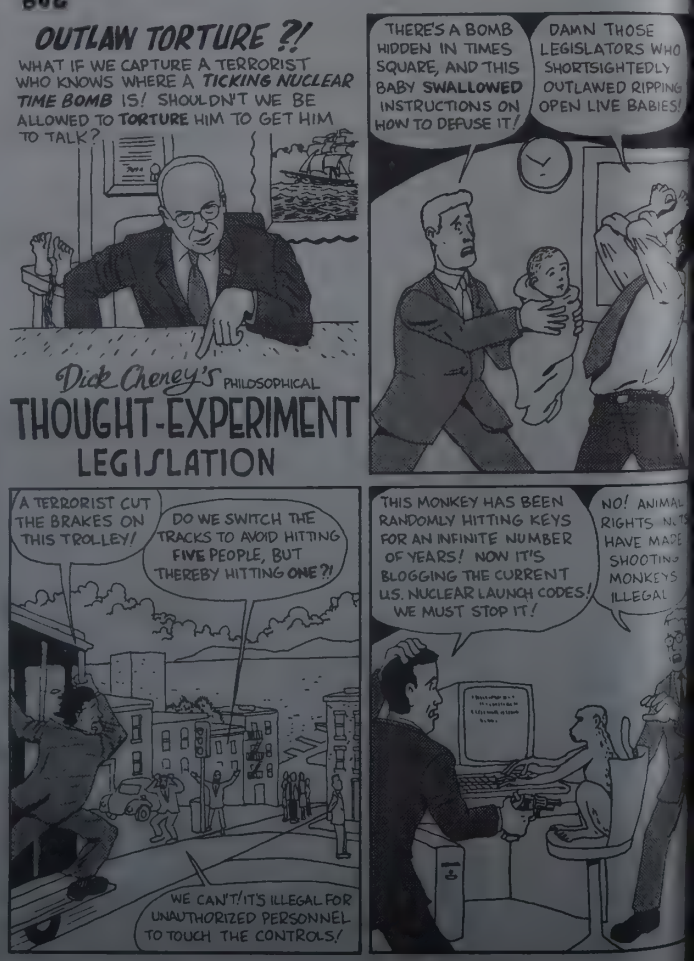
And it's true—they wouldn't be there voting if it wasn't for the invasion and excision of Saddam Hussein. But in so many ways, especially in this case, voting amounts to just words. Like saying "I love you," without some demonstrable affection, respect and sacrifice, you're basically being a two-dimensional Hallmark card. You need to show that love.

The U.S. needs to show that freedom. That means not holding the liberation over Iraq's head every second of the next century, as so many Americans did when France disagreed with this very war, going so far down the brain stem as to rename fucking french fries, forgetting France's invaluable help in their own forging.

"Where are the liberal critics now? They're totally silent!" one Tennessee raver yelled in the microphone

The greatest test for the [illegible] to use Bush's simple pa[illegible] ahead. If Iraq votes for anti-[illegible] can candidates, will the [illegible] pull back in the name of liberty? Even Stephen Harper knew the answer to this, as he wrote a [illegible] the *Washington Times*, distancing himself from Bush, and later on right chastising their enemies for warning us about what we were talk about in our Canada [illegible] What does history tell us happens Iraqi leaders who don't play ball?

BY RUBEN BOLLING



Rummy

Continued from page 11

murders in Dujail that have been front-paged this week in coverage of the former dictator's trial; they occurred 17 months before Rumsfeld arrived in Baghdad.

WRITING OFF THE DAMAGE

Today, inside the corporate media frame, history can be supremely relevant when it focuses on Hussein's torture and genocide. But the historic assistance of the U.S. government and American firms is largely off the subject and beside the point.

A photo of Donald Rumsfeld shaking Saddam's hand on Dec. 20, 1983, is easily available. (It takes a few seconds to find via Google.) But the picture has been notably absent from the array of historic images that U.S. media outlets are providing to viewers and readers in coverage of the Saddam Hussein trial. And journalistic mention of Rumsfeld's key role in aiding the Iraqi tyrant has been similarly absent. Apparently, in the world according to U.S. mass media, some history matters profoundly and some doesn't matter at all.

NORMAN SOLOMON

Norman Solomon is the author of the new book War Made Easy: How Presidents and Pundits Keep Spinning Us to Death

From Featurewell

CORRECTIONS:

In last week's issue, Green Party candidate for Edmonton Centre, David J. Parker was incorrectly identified as Jim Parker. We apologize for this error. We also inadvertently omitted the New Democratic Party from our chart of participation by women candidates in the upcoming federal election. The complete chart is presented below.

Participation by women candidates in the 2006 election

Party	Women	Men	% Women
Bloc Quebecois	23	52	31
Conservatives	32	264	11
Liberals	78	229	25
NDP	108	198	36
Green	42	178	19

Fast Facts

- Total Albertan women candidates in 2004 federal election: **21**
- Number women MPs in 38th Parliament: **62**
- Proportion of women MPs in Canada: **21%**
- Proportion of women MPs in Rwanda: **49 %**
- Canada's world ranking for women's representation in government: **43**

(*Numbers collected by www.equalvoice.ca as of Dec. 21, 2005)

E-READING

JAY SMITH

STENCE WITH SUBSTANCE

-HAT THE CHRISTMAS RUSH IS ... me superstructure of booksellers ... known as "the industry"—has ... to try to rekindle the campaign to ... books from the shackles of the ... d Services Tax. (Do you remember ... those postcards circa 1991?) ... the campaign never died, it just ... for a while. The arguments for ... status no doubt remain the same: ... d be considered as constitutional- ... ary as six doughnuts or a litre of ... deo, too, is that the removal of this ... rdly any one even notices any- ... I encourage people to become ... ned consumers of new books.

S OWN HOTSEAT

...ndled this week: the appeal to ... life of children's author **Stanley** ... Williams. The Nobel Prize-nominated writer of nine children's books was better known as the founder of the notorious American street gang, the Crips and, according to some, as a villain extraordinaire. He had been on death ... Quentin Prison for the 1979 mur- ... people. Although Williams had ... remorse for his participation in ... for his criminal activities as a ... maintained his innocence of the ... which he received the death

... although **numerous witnesses** ... forth to contest the evidence that ... Williams' conviction, California ... **Arnold Schwarzenegger** denied ... to Williams. "After studying the ... searching the history, listening to ... ments and wrestling with the pro- ... nsequences, I could find no justifica- ... granting clemency," Schwarzeneg- ... stated in a statement issued to the ... December 12.

... William's execution in the wee ... December 13, the world's response ... universal outrage. Given that the ... ity is still considered "barbaric" in ... some in Schwarzenegger's home- ... for its Schwarzenegger Stadium ... Tookie Williams Stadium. The ... Green Party called for the revoca- ... Schwarzenegger's citizenship. Even ... Schwarzenegger's precarious sta- ... and the increasing discon- ... Californian Republican party with ... obvious that the decision not to ... had nothing to do with the ... everything to do with saving ... arse.

... considered to be a paragon of ... potential of prisons, said that ... to be remembered for his ... May the man with "many ... the heart," as French Socialist ... Julien Dray described ... find some of his own ... Cuz, you know if the Pope's ... Arnie, that means that God's ... too

... news, **Heather Reisman**, head- ... Chapter's-Indigo, appeared in that little box with talking heads inside On *Canada AM* recently. Reisman came by to recommend good books for gift-giving. In the on-line video clip, she begins by pointing to *My Friend Leonard*, **James Frey**'s sequel to *A Million Little Pieces*. This first memoir was catapulted to bestsellerdom largely thanks to Oprah's endorsement; Reisman, however, would like everyone to know that "it was recommended by Oprah but recommended by me first." (Insert throaty bleach-blonde laugh here.) We have noticed how Heather's table is, in most Chapter's locations, set beside Oprah's, taunted by Oprah's inimitable success and first-name-only fame. If only *Canada AM* had the same audience as Oprah. If only Heather wasn't named Heather. We at re:reading certainly wish that our literary whims could be touched with a magic wand of celebrity conveyance to create best-sellers.

Reisman continues: *My Friend Leonard* is even more "unputdownable—that's my favourite expression" than the first book.

Most studies that compare literacy, book reading, and vocabulary typically show a positive relationship. Evidently Reisman is an exception to the rule, as is, perhaps, *My Friend Leonard*'s categorization as fiction. Heather: as far as genres go, memoirs belong to non-fiction, even if they're written in a literary way, as James Frey purports to do, in his charming Kerouac-rip-off style. Regardless, it is, in her words, "delicious."

At any rate, Reisman's recommended gift titles has garnered some attention because the only Canadian book on the table is Canadian for those with a flexible imagination: **Adam Gopnik**, author of *The King in the Window*, once lived in Montreal. He doesn't anymore.

Good enough

Eli Wallach doesn't dish out the Ugly

THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE ME
By Eli Wallach. Harcourt, Inc., 299 pp, $32.95

ONE OF THE MANY CLASSIC MOMENTS in the Italian western, *The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly*, comes as the camera pans across the faces of the townspeople as the list of heinous crimes committed by Tuco (The Ugly) is read out, just before he is hung. The second time this occurs, he growls with his shining gold teeth at a matron wearing a bonnet, and she cringes away from him. It's one of many scenes marked by a thread of goofy humour deeply entwined within the cynicism of the piece—the fact that Tuco is letting himself be hung so The Good, played by Clint Eastwood, can shoot the rope and they can both escape with the reward money.

What the audience doesn't see in the film is that, when the special effects man explodes the small charge at the top of the rope to give the illusion that Clint has perfect aim, the noise sppoks the horse, and Eli Wallach, the actor who plays Tuco, gets taken for a wild, mile long ride with his hands tied behind his back.

Wallach played a host of villains, a lot of them Mexican, Italian and otherwise foreign (Calvera in *The Magnificent Seven*, "Happy" Loccarno in *The Poppy Is Also A Flower*, The General in *Lord Jim*, Don Altobello *in The Godfather Part III*) but he also played good, sensitive guys and more ambiguous characters (Uncle Vern Damico in *The Executioner's Song*, Guido in *The Misfits*); he grew up in Prospect Park Brooklyn, in a nice, lower-middle-class Jewish family. His parents owned a mom and pop store.

The Good, the Bad, and Me is more a string of anecdotes than it is a memoir. There is autobiographical detail; we learn about Wallach's childhood, his early days as a student of "The Method," when he studied with Sanford Meisner, Martha Graham, Lee Strasberg, Elia Kazan and fellow students Tony Randall, Gregory Peck, and Efrem Zimbalist Jr., his war service in an overseas hospital unit, and his fifty-six year (at the time of writing) marriage to actress Anne Jackson—but it's in the form of stories, some serious, mostly humorous, but stories none the less, centered on his career as an actor.

This isn't really a criticism. Wallach is a great storyteller who knows how to build a tale in an entertaining way

and deliver a punchline on the page with the same power he had on screen as an actor but, ultimately, it's a checklist of his professional life. You get good stuff about John Huston, Clark Gable, Clint Eastwood, Marlon Brando, Henry Fonda, Marilyn Monroe, Charles Laughton and many others. What you don't get is much in the way of a really deep or personal nature

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Cafe Mosaics *10844—82 Ave. 433 9702* With a newly revamped menu, Mosaics makes its way to your heart with simple, unpretentious, [illegible] of reasonable prices. Key items include the Cajun Burger and the Portobello Parmesan Mushroom Salad. Companions get their excellent Huevos Rancheros for Sunday brunch, but it's definitely worth getting up for. ★★★★

Padmanadi Vegetarian Restaurant *10626—97 St. 428 8899* Padmanadi not only serves great food, they add a new element to the existing veggie restaurant palette—more than 50 meatless dishes. The menu draws on the flavours of Malaysia and Indonesia: [illegible] coconut milk, chilis and a sweet, thick soy-based sauce called kichap. What you have here is nice folks running a decent restaurant with unique food. What do you want? A written invite? ★★★½

BREAKFAST and BRUNCH

Cafe de Ville *10137—124 St. 488 9188* Despite the fact I've had some above-average dinners in this classy Edwardian-era dining room, the brunch is to totally die for, from the piping-hot selection of just-baked buns and muffins to hearty entrees that should have the decadence cops slashing down the door. You'll never leave de Ville anything short of satisfied. ★★★★★

Collins *9914—89 Ave 437—5588* Chef Brad Lozoranko has leveled this brunch menu with tasty morsels like quiche/cake or braised bacon mushroom frittates, the "house sandwich" — grilled zucchini, spinach cream cheese, pickled peppers, and chickpea spread, and the dinner menu is even more in-depth: pork chops in chamchum sauce, wild salmon, scallops, hotpots and fabulous snacks and appetizers. ★★★★½

TAKE-OUT and LUNCH

The Wok Box *10119 Jasper Ave., 444-2269* The problematic aspect of the Wok Box is the expectations it sets up by offering the flavours of China, Cambodia, India, Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia. From the dishes I've tried there, authenticity is not the Wok Box's long suit. However the food from the Wok Box is quite good, there's a large quantity for what you pay, and it manages to be both filling and quite light at the same time. ★★★★½

CAFÉ/BISTRO

Bistro Prahus *10168—100A St 424 4218* Bistro is a place of civility and comfort, allowing you to dine like a gourmet on weiner schnitzel, lamb chops, finely wrought beef, chicken and seafood dishes. There's also an array of sandwiches, salads and pacing-style plates at very reasonable prices. ★★★★½

Duette's Bistro *17328 Stony Plain Rd. 486 4448* Under the helm of chef Emmanuel David, this brand-new eatery is red-hot. Gourmet-level cuisine served in bag, big portions with an easy-on-your-wallet pricing regime. Expect a wait if you go on weekends. ★★★★½

Two Rooms Cafe *10324—82 Ave., 439—8386* This lentil soup is the stuff of legend: thick and hearty, potently seasoned and satisfying. Along with soup and some appetizers, deluxe gourmet sandwiches and sides satisfy your appetite with that which is simultaneously familiar and totally unique. ★★★★½

Whole in the Wall Cafe *10115—104 St., 425-9255* Rousing the humble soup and sandwich to elevated status, the daily bill of fare also includes salads, a daily pizza, and hot entrees. The soups and sandwiches change and are of the hearty, healthy variety—you can eat here daily and not repeat a meal. ★★★★½

Zuppa Cafe *9843—110 St., 482—1741* The neighbourhood cafe has become an institution due to its welcoming, sun-splashed confines, quality cooking and superb coffee. Zuppa has all day breakfast, grilled sandwiches, salads, wraps, pasta and other daily specials that never break the $10 ceiling and constitute quite a healthy portion. ★★★½

COFFEE HOUSES

The Sugar Bowl *10922—88 Ave. 433-8369* A totally mellow experience: Hanging out on the stoop of this late-Edwardian-era brick building come summertime is a long-standing southside tradition. Always excellent espresso-based drinks, a number of beers on tap, the ubiquitous cinnamon bun (get there early!) and new dinner and weekly brunch menus. ★★★★½

BAKERIES

Handy Bakery *8660—118 Ave. 477-8842* Delicious Portuguese baked goods are the main fare at this unassuming Norwood grocery. Try the crusty cornbread, the doughnut-like sonhos and the pasteis de nata, yummy flake-pastry cups filled with custard. A good selection of Portuguese meats, cheeses, olives and pantry essentials too. The lineup takes a little while to get through. ★★★★½

CASUAL/ECLECTIC

The Copper Pot *101 9707—110 St., 452—7800* The cozy booths are a good place to sit, enjoy the view, or work your way down the long list of martinis. Standard fare dotes on seafood (from Coquelles St. Jacques and panfried trout to lobster thermidor) with forays into poultry-beef, game, and schnitzel. ★★★★½

Gabbana *11223 Jasper Ave., 488—0955* Gabbana has quietly assumed a solid reputation for its inventive "fusion" cuisine and respectable wine list. Despite a shaky start, they've hung in for around five years and their menu has evolved admirably. I'd specifically like to endorse his the Su Dong Po Wild boar. ★★★★½

Manor Cafe *10109—125 St., 482—7577* Boasting a spacious, rustic but elegant patio, the Manor is a gorgeous old house with plenty of indoor dining. And they serve beautiful, unconventional food—whether you're looking for a monolithic entrée, tapas, salad, or an assortment of appetizers. ★★★★½

Rigoletto's *10068—108 St., 429—0701* Rigoletto's is, of course, a long-time staple of Edmonton's restaurant scene, home to dependable Italian food, enticing beef, chicken and seafood entrees, delightful daily menus and a fine venue for late night dining and drinks. Just stepping into its chiaroscuro confines has an easeful effect. ★★★★½

FINE DINING

Cafe de Ville *10137—124 St., 488—9188* The fillet of Arctic char smothered in port and pine nuts set before me was so exacerbingly prepared that I must have made all manner of rapturous sounds, bite after succulent bite. An average day transformed into a special occasion by virtue of this remarkable meal. Add Cafe de Ville to the list of places you should visit more frequently. ★★★★½

Characters Restaurant *10257—105 St. 421-4100* Blending traditional tea room elegance with postmodern panache and an uptown menu, Characters is a brilliant addition to downtown's culinary culture. Loads of fresh ingredients, a deft kitchen and sublime service make for a memorable meal. ★★★★★

SEAFOOD

Billingsgate Restaurant *7331—104 St., 433-0091* The generic interior is a secondary concern when you feast your eyes on the appetizer list, which includes several dolled-up aquatic delicacies. But entrees are harder to decide on — Sesame Maple Glazed Salmon, Blackened Nile Perch, paella... still, while it's a bit pricey, Billingsgate gives real-world meaning to that cliché about getting what you pay for. ★★★½

ASIAN

Giesang Restaurant *9261—34 Ave. 450—3330* Cook your own Korean food on a grill that sprouts out of the table! Clearly, not for everyone-vegetarians are liable to feel ripped off-but if you like meat and know how to pace yourself, that $18 buffet charge goes a long way. Wear something you're planning to wash soon: despite ventilation fans, the air gets a little thick in the Giesang. ★★★½

Matahari *101088—124 St., 452-8262* The red curry beef had my vote for the most delectable of the dishes of Matahari's sprawling menu, but the rest of the table vied heavily with the entree and the kid dessert. How can you say no to roti canai stuffed with bananas, topped with strawberry syrup and coconut ice cream? ★★★★½

Mikawa Dining & Lounge *9431 Jasper Ave. 425-3888* Scrumptious dim sum in a massive dining room that's usually packed. Look for excellent, plump shrimp rice flour wraps, pan-fried pork dumplings, carried squed and endless hot tea. ★★★½

SUSHI and TEPPAN

The Mikado *10350 109 St., 425—8096* The venerable treasure-trove of Japanese culinary delights identifies the downtown restaurant as a place one must revisit. Edmonton's oldest Japanese restaurant and still an overwhelmingly popular haunt for all those who favour bento boxes, rabata, noodle bowls, sushi and sashimi. ★★★★½

Sushi Wasabi *[illegible] 433-0323* I miss their little take-out kiosk in the Strathcona Chinatown Mall, but the new digs suit the elegance and quality of the food. Good assortment of entrees but, really, try the sushi. Or at least the avocado-shiitake roll. ★★★★½

THAI

A-Roy Dee Thai House *9653—102 Avenue 428—0148* The freshness of the food is spectacular, and the complexity of the flavours comes through loud and clear. Bring a large group of people to sample the menu as full as easy on the pocketbook as it is on the palate. ★★★★★

CAJUN

Dooley's Restaurant *[illegible] 484—[illegible]* [illegible] menu has been tweaked a bit lately, but it's always loved about Dooley's is still there: [illegible] uds, gumbos, the always-tasty sweet potato [illegible] cious po' boys on special every Monday [illegible] Try the breakfast sometime. sweet potato [illegible] Hell yeah. ★★★★½

CENTRAL AMERICAN

Acapulco *11302—107 Ave., 426-1308* [illegible] fast—with eggs, refried beans, fried plantains [illegible] is enticingly exotic, but the Huevos Rancheros [illegible] tortilla topped with two eggs [illegible] tightly freckled with salty feta—eventually [illegible] pupusas will hold you under the thrall of [illegible] ciousness. ★★★½

Churros King *10152—82 Ave., 989* [illegible] monarch, Churros King recently annexed [illegible] offer an expanded seating area. South American [illegible] wiches are augmented by a trio of specials, [illegible] on a chacarera-a homemade bun filled with [illegible] grilled beef, tomatoes, spiced green beans [illegible] long made it worth every penny of the $8 [illegible] there was no disputing the quality of the churros [illegible] ★★★½

INDIAN and EASTERN

Mebrat Café *10603—107 Ave., 424 9996* [illegible] purveyor of Ethiopian and Eritrean cuisine [illegible] extensive, the interior neither lush nor distinctive, but [illegible] is well-patronized. How many places offer the traditional Eritrean breakfast repast of fuli? ★★★★

New Asian Village *10143 Saskatchewan Dr. 433-[illegible]* Esteemed for its mouthwatering Indian fare and [illegible] beer selection, New Asian Village puts up nice buffets [illegible] Wednesday and Sunday nights. Pace yourself. ★★★½

ITALIAN

Allegro Italian Kitchen *10011—109 St. 424-[illegible]* There is exceptional pasta to be had, and you can't [illegible] to come through with the requisite trimmings: a [illegible] red, a nice salad (Insalata Allegro) and a good, [illegible] monotonous, flavourful pasta. Allegro put up a [illegible] slate of specials every night very much in line with what already do so well. ★★★★½

East Side Mario's *2104—99 St. 988-8938* [illegible] shouldn't let its grim South Edmonton Common [illegible] and over-kitschy dining room blind you to the subtle [illegible] this energetic franchise. Way adept take on Italian [illegible] way slick service. ★★★½

Sicilian Pasta Kitchen *11239 Jasper Ave. 488-[illegible]* Sicilian Pasta Kitchen has a great reputation the hard [illegible] from scratch, there's an impressive selection of pasta, [illegible] entrees and appetizers, and the portions are generous. [illegible] wouldn't be a big deal if the food were [illegible] But I've never been disappointed by a meal at the [illegible] Pasta Kitchen. ★★★½

MEDITERRANEAN

Yianni's Taverna Restaurant *10444—82 Ave.* [illegible] good Greek food in a nice character room [illegible] Whyte, Yianni's is also renowned for the exuberant [illegible] phere that sometimes spills into the street, and [illegible] your lap. ★★★★½

Zivelli *12202 Jasper Ave. 453-3912* Evocing [illegible] Yugoslavian influences, this "Italian Restaurant" is a [illegible] place to linger over delicious appetizers like [illegible] mari and olives with anchovies as you savour a bottle [illegible] Yugoslavian red. For $21.99 per person you can [illegible] dozen items off the menu, which includes [illegible] and Adriatic shrimp. Attractive patio for summer [illegible] ★★★½

STEAKHOUSES

Teddy's Restaurant and Lounge *11361 Jasper Ave. [illegible]-0984* The menu is a catalogue of middle-de[illegible] tori food, everything from a king size cornedbeef [illegible] fish and chips, lasagna, liver and onions; the [illegible] dip, seafood dishes and other "Western" [illegible] can I say? It was without a doubt the best steak I [illegible] summer, accounting for every one of the four [illegible] review. ★★★★½

PIZZA

Pharo's Pizza *8708—109 St. 433-5205* I'm [illegible] commit the faux pas of saying that Pharo's is the [illegible] town (my god, that's like choosing a favourite [illegible] children), but will state that it's certainly in my [illegible] 10. The joint also has that retro-diner coolness and [illegible] situated beside the Garneau Theatre for pre- or post-[illegible] ging out. ★★★★½

BURGERS

Burger Baron *9908—70 Ave., 433-7634* [illegible] retains footholds all over Alberta, with seven [illegible] around Edmonton, and offers 12 varieties [illegible] Gourmet (ham, cheese, bacon, lettuce, [illegible] les and "our special red sauce") to the Plain [illegible] and "our special red sauce") in three [illegible] was empty in under five minutes and I finished [illegible] on the walk home. ★★★½

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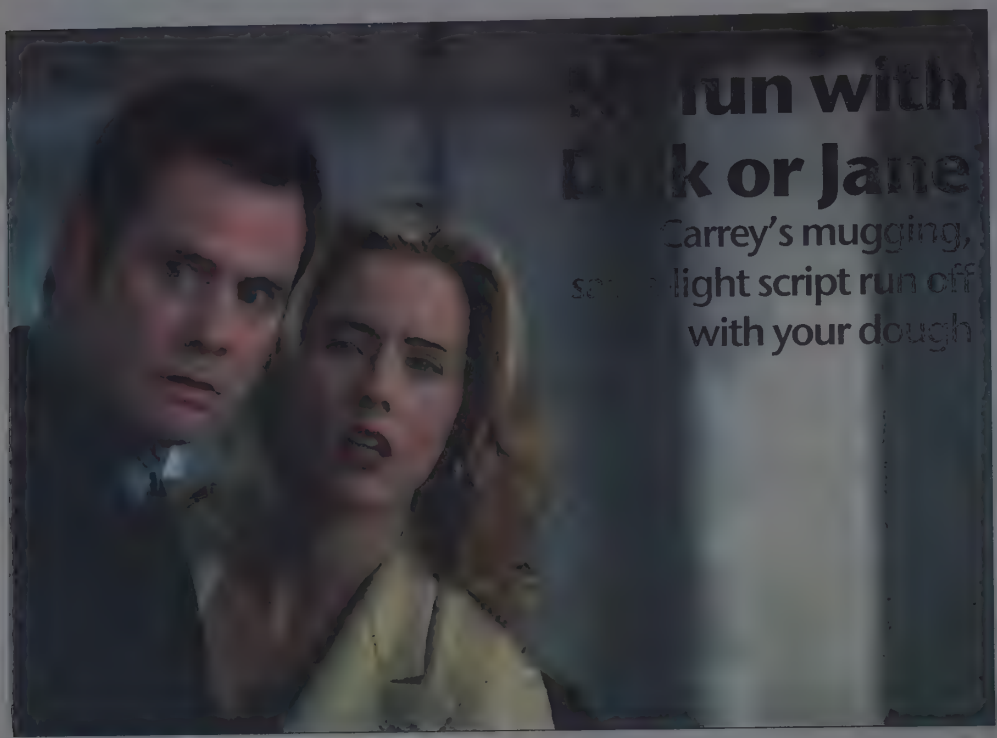
on screen



[illegible] fun with [illegible]k or Jane

[illegible]arrey's mugging, [illegible] light script run off with your dough

He tries too hard... Becaus[illegible] it's a cartoon, we lose touch with the funny-'cause-it's-true aspect of it.

FUN WITH DICK AND JANE
Directed by Dean Parisot, Starring Jim Carrey, Tea Leoni, Opens Fri, ★★★☆☆

IT'S BEING SOLD AS A COMEDY, BUT BOY, THE best things about *Fun With Dick and Jane* aren't funny at all. The film should be angry, sad, and universal—ironically, that's when it really succeeds in being funny.

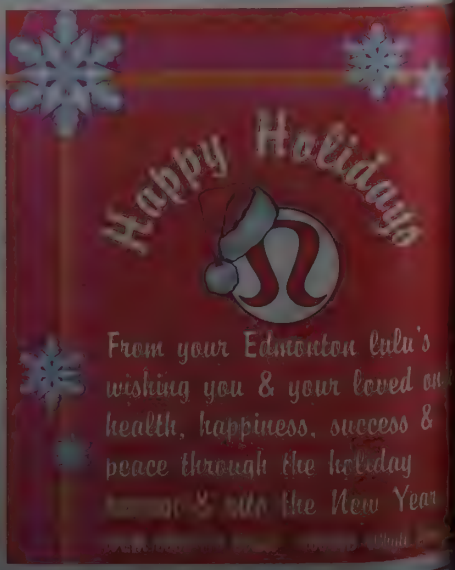
A remake of a 1977 film, it's re-set as a period piece taking place in the year 2000. This version shares the basic premise of the first film, being the story of Dick (Jim Carrey) and Jane (Tea Leoni) Harper, an upwardly mobile exec and his wife (in the 21st century version, she is a travel agent) who find themselves committing petty robberies when Dick loses his job. Specifically, Dick is promoted to VP of Communications on the very day that it is revealed that his vaguely Internet-related company fudged the books and takes a dive on the markets.

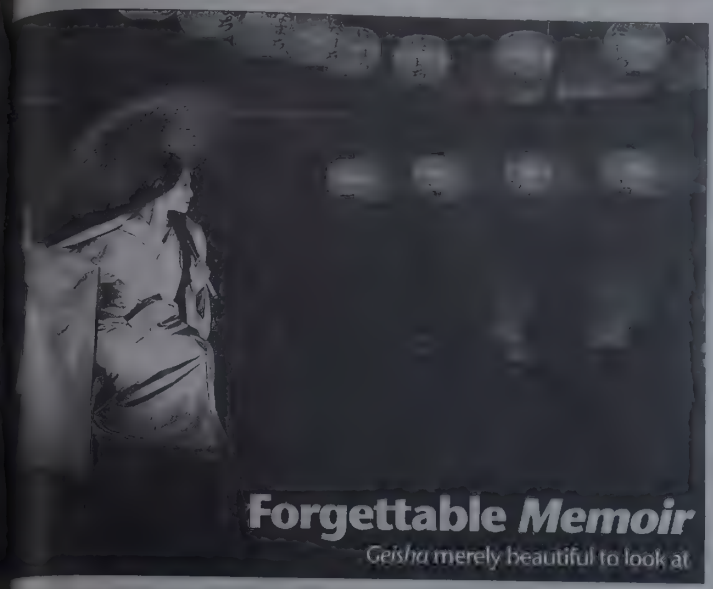
At first, we are led to believe that the couple should be envied for what they've acquired: a tract house in a fine neighbourhood, a nanny, a BMW, a plasma screen TV, and so on. When Dick delivers news of his promotion, there's only two things left to do: get a swimming pool installed, and let Jane quit her job to be a full-time mommy. "Let's have sex... on Saturday," she suggests as a celebration. Now, that's one of the problems with the rest of the movie is that you're wondering why Jane just doesn't get her job back, instead of standing by her man's cockeyed schemes. And what's so funny about losing your job and possibly everything you've ever built for yourself anyway? Nevertheless, it trundles on for the belief-suspended.

The robberies the pair then commits are supposed to be an extreme measure, but it just comes across as a real, desperate, and sad reflection of what people are willing to do when capitalist pressures tell [illegible] big house and fine thing[illegible] traps you into taking [illegible] the rest of your life. And [illegible] though Dick and Jane ta[illegible] paying menial jobs (disc[illegible] greeter for him, medical [illegible] her), they don't seem to [illegible] dots as to how that (and [illegible] can nanny, for that matte[illegible] ed their old lifestyle. It [illegible] how class-consciousness [illegible] creep into the equation [illegible] actually have an excess [illegible] to deal with it—the first [illegible] do once the cash flow sta[illegible] they finish the pool and [illegible] another huge plasma TV.

I don't blame the mov[illegible] being militant enough [illegible] reflection of what real A[illegible] would likely do, given th[illegible] stances. But undercutting [illegible] could've been a wry sat[illegible] ern life (the screenplay [illegible] ten by Judd Apatow, w[illegible] dead-on about these thi[illegible] Carrey's constant mugg[illegible] camera. He simply tries [illegible] with his facial gymnastic[illegible] delivering something str[illegible] do. Because it's a cartoon [illegible] touch with the funny-[illegible] aspect of it, and the sympathy th[illegible] we should be learning for [illegible] millions of people who strug[illegible] every day to get by, and [illegible] re-acquire electronics and [illegible] parties. It takes a step, but [illegible] lost making faces at the audi[illegible] that it never gets there.

MATT SASA[illegible]





Forgettable *Memoir*

Geisha merely beautiful to look at

There is a satisfying sense of excess of desire and feeling and near-camp about this movie

RS OF A GEISHA
by Rob Marshall, Starring Zhang Ziyi,
Yeoh, Gong Li, Opens Fri, Dec 23,

TION TO THE FILM VERSION OF
Golden's bestseller *Memoirs*
eisha has been divided so far.
re either ticked off about the
ally inaccurate casting (it's so
d with Chinese performers
en asked Yo Yo Ma to be on
undtrack!) or gushing about
country of the movie itself
thing about why's gonna
Oscar for this one. Either
hat an insubstantial bit of
make such a fuss about!
book, like the movie, is a fic-
memoir of an unusual blue-
fisherman's daughter named
who, along with her sister, is
become a servant in the city.
nds up working for an okiya,
a house, headed by the formi-
Mother (Kaori Momoi) and
ghty geisha Hatsumomo
Li). Chiyo's unlucky sister is
a brothel and other horrors,
hard to believe. After a spell,
is taken under the wing of
e geisha, Mameha (Michelle
Yeoh), assumes the professional
Sayuri, to become the greatest
of her time.

A logical approach would be to
allowing Chiyo pursue the rigor-
ming to become geisha in
her freedom and find
Or maybe tell a story of
and mastery. But no.
it is a story of female
(Hatsumomo immedi-
gnizes the girl as a poten-
and a tale of longing for a
n only as The Chairman
Watanabe), who wins her nine-
heart by giving her an iced
one day when he finds her
the street. Preposterous.
out how preposter-
the end, but far be it for me
to spoil that one for you.

Casting shouldn't have been an issue. After all, it's one's abilities as an actor that should decide such things, yes? Nevertheless, that the film takes place during the Japanese occupation of Manchuria makes casting Chinese actors in such prominent roles at the very least politically awkward. They probably did hire the best Asian actors they knew, but wasted it on cartoonishly simple roles—what a pity that Youki Kudoh, who actually *is* Japanese and was good enough for Jim Jarmusch's *Mystery Train*, is relegated to the minor role of Pumpkin.

Kudoh's the [illegible] delivering lines like "Did Mother never tell you about the Lotus and the Cave?" or "If a tree has no leaves, no branches, is it talking about a tree?" (Someone tell her it's [illegible] blog.) And with the exception of a few jarring Japanese language scenes (dialogue is in English) resulting in a mishmash of accents (can no one say "Sayuri" right?)

The novel was a bestseller, so the story must be interesting, one may argue. Well, the book was full of fascinating details of a geisha's life: grooming, dance and music training, entertaining, and homelife. [illegible] many detailed [illegible] the characters were [illegible] creation of traits [illegible] people [illegible] and emotion. [illegible] want [illegible] "natural", doesn't that make for a rather dull [illegible]

If anything, there is a satisfying sense of excess of desire and feeling and near-camp about this movie. [illegible] In fact, [illegible] triumph [illegible] Mamaha [illegible] her virginity [illegible] A little Orientalist fantasy and fancy gewgaws do not a profound story make. Movie [illegible]

MARI SASANO

3 GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS
BEST PICTURE · BEST ACTOR · BEST ACTRESS

TIME
"A TERRIFIC MOVIE. EXHILARATINGLY FUNNY... Laura Linney is superb and Jeff Daniels has created his masterpiece."
-Richard Corliss

"FRESH AND FIERCE! THE LAUGHS CUT TO THE BONE."
-Peter Travers

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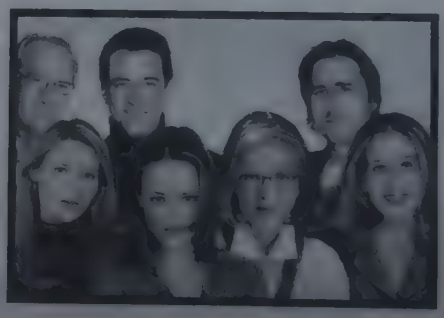

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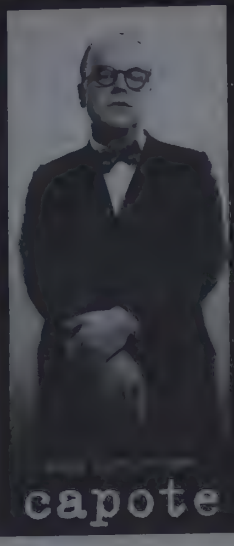

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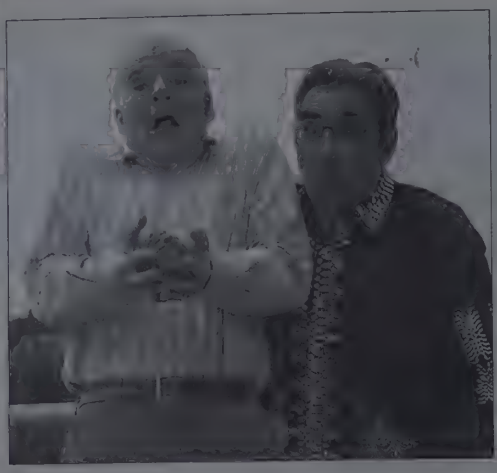

Cheaper and cheaper

Why does Steve Martin appear in this stuff?

CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2
Directed by Adam Shankman, Starring Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt, Hilary Duff, Tom Welling, Eugene Levy, Carmen Electra, Now playing,
★★☆☆

MANY YEARS FROM NOW, I THINK director Adam Shankman will have his own "touch," like Hitchcock's MacGuffins or De Palma's self-consciously arty camera moves. His trademark involves the placement of A-list comedy stars in C-grade comedy scripts overloaded with John Hughes *Home Alone*-era slapstick shenanigans. Apparently he thinks that adherence to this formula is a license to print money. I've got news for ya, bud. That isn't the case with *Cheaper By the Dozen 2*.

Certainly its predecessor had heaping helpings of food fights and underwear soaked in raw meat, but at least there was a family together-

The motif here is a woefully underwritten togetherness/nemesis pissing contest...

ness/Mr. Mom motif to ha[illegible] on. In taking over the rein[illegible] Shawn Levy, Shankman [illegible] same shenanigans, even [illegible] them up. But unfortunate[illegible] here is a woefully under[illegible] togetherness/nemesis pi[illegible] that works itself out just in[illegible] because the script says so. [illegible] mentioned films also insp[illegible] and audiences to ponder [illegible] Great Question per film [illegible] asked myself how the hell [illegible] ic Queen Latifah wound up [illegible] Martin in *Bringing Down the Ho[illegible]* here I wondered: Why am I look[illegible] at Carmen Electra's partial [illegible] breasts in a family comedy [illegible] when Janet Jackson's nan[illegible] Super Bowl exposure pr[illegible] brought down a TV network? He[illegible] end my rant... for now.

Times have changed for Tom [illegible] Baker (Steve Martin), wife Kate [illegible] nie Hunt), and their brood [illegible] we last saw them two years ago [illegible] Oldest daughter Nora (Piper Per[illegible] is married, expecting, and soon [illegible] Houston with her upwardly mo[illegible] hubby. Free-spirited fashion pla[illegible] Lorraine (Hilary Duff) is determ[illegible] to go to design college in the big [illegible] Apple, much to Dad's consta[illegible] He reacts as most fathers do [illegible] ing on one last summer of family [illegible] togetherness at their Lake [illegible] getaway. The place certainly hold[illegible] pleasant memories, but also [illegible] unpleasant one in the form of [illegible] arch-nemesis Jimmy Murdoch [illegible] (Eugene Levy). He owns most of [illegible] area, has a seemingly perfect bro[illegible] of eight and a trophy wife. He lo[illegible] down his nose from his [illegible] chateau at Tom's run-down abo[illegible] and his anal-retentive [illegible] would like nothing better [illegible] the Mitrano's to kick some [illegible] butt at the annual challenge cup [illegible] the feeling is mutual.

Another Great Question must [illegible] asked: Why would Steve Martin [illegible] writer of the acclaimed [illegible] yet and the same [illegible] appear in *Cheaper 2* when Sam [illegible] of a script obviously [illegible] draft? I mean, even the "It's [illegible] blow" bit is recycled here. If you [illegible] want to know why Tom and Jim [illegible] are so pissed at each other, you [illegible] won't find out, other than the [illegible] sputtering, "All the parents like [illegible] him! All the teachers liked him!"

It's unfortunate that Levy [illegible] himself the pre-Oscar Charlize [illegible] comedy, saying yes to every [illegible] smarmy nebbish role that come[illegible] way. It's quality, not quantity, [illegible] friend. You look tired. Take a b[illegible] And judging by the rushed fe[illegible] Duff's scenes, one can just imag[illegible] her agent dragging her to the s[illegible] because it's "good for your ca[illegible] babe." Thankfully the chemistry between Martin and Hunt and between Levy and Martin b[illegible] the weak script and generates [illegible] warmth, even if it's microwave [illegible] In short, *Cheaper 2* doesn't total [illegible] blow, but it won't blow your [illegible] either.

MIKE HE[illegible]

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WOLF CREEK
Directed by Greg McLean, Starring Cassandra Magrath, Kestie Morassi, Nathan Phillips, Opens Sun, Dec

CONSIDERING ITS ROOTS as penal colony, Australia has stellar job marketing itself cuddly koala bears, the "put shrimp on the barbi" tourist paign, and horny Jasper skin ators with coy smiles, it has up the didgeridoo. Of cours anywhere, it's got an angry For example: Russell Crow shit-crazy temper, recent b race wars, and the trio of part nasty murder cases that inspired *Wolf Creek*.

Aussie writer/director Gre McLean's debut feature is inspired by the "backpacker murders" Peter Falconio disappearance and "the Snowtown murders" (a.k.a. "the Bodies in Barrels murders")—all grisly slayings taking place in the outback within the last 15 years. The details of the crimes—kidnapping, torture, mutilation—are utterly horrifying (for details go to wikipedia.org, search for "Wolf Creek film" and follow the links), and McLean weaves them into a rural-horror mythology that recaptures the spirit of The *Texas Chainsaw Massacre*.

Like Tobe Hooper's seminal shocker, *Wolf Creek* follows a group of hormone-driven, hard-partying young adults road-tripping through the hot, remote countryside. The

The most brutal, uncompromising well-directed horror movie of the year.

film's only real flaw is that it spends too much time detailing the average adventures of Liz (Cassandra Magrath), Kristy (Kestie Morassi) and Ben (Nathan Phillips), before turning nasty. Things finally get interesting when they return from hike to discover their car is dead. Stranded in the middle of nowhere (actually a place called Wolf Creek) they're stuck until a stranger arrives and agrees to help fix their ride. Mick (John Jarrat) seems like the Crocodile Dundee type, but when the trio find themselves at his junk-strewn farm, they're subject to the sadistic games of an Outback Jack the Ripper.

It's the most brutal, uncompromising, and well-directed horror movie of the year. As Hooper did in *Chainsaw*, McLean raises a hysterical level of terror by introducing an arcane landscape of unfathomable insanity, and then showing just enough of that world's horrors to let the imagination run wild. Like *Chainsaw*, *Wolf Creek* is steeped in tension and seems a lot gorier than it is.

Having already become a controversial breakout indie hit in Australian—where its release was postponed until the Falconio murder trial was over—Dimension is hoping it'll be an anti-holiday hit here when released Christmas Day. And if you're looking for something to cut through the Christmas saccharine like a shotgun full of road salt, yer luck, mate.

DAVE ALEXANDER

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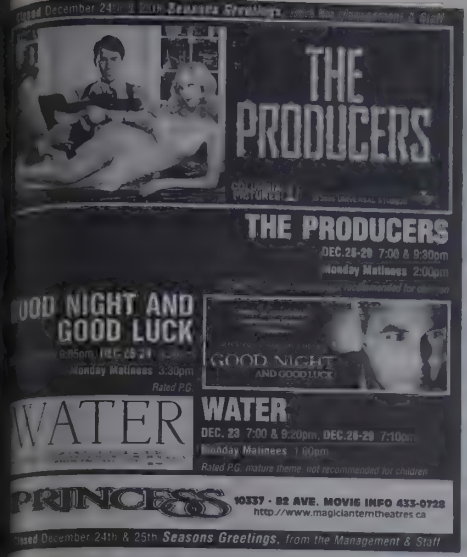

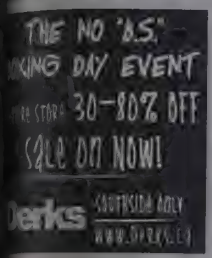

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3) **Gold Digger**
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6) **Santa Claus Goes Straight To The Ghetto**
Snoop Dogg

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apsule film reviews

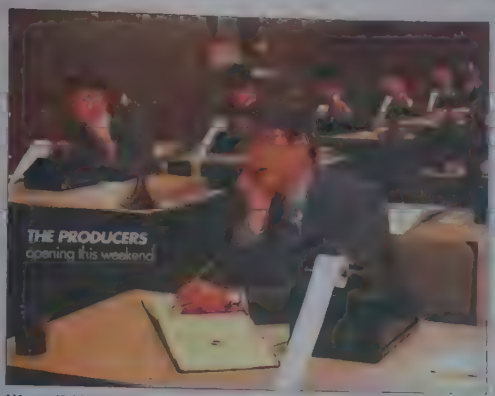
on Flux Scantily clad Aeon Flux ze Theron) is an agent for an around movement in a world future, which means her onsist of sneaking around ating pills that allow her to ual meetings with the resis eader and flipping though sexily. Director Karyn (Girlfight) lacks the vision e the most of the futuristic the plot becomes convolut- Aeon lacks the dimension ake her struggle really com- g, the best thing Aeon Flux has for it is Theron's flying domi- routine. ★★★☆☆ (DA)

tolan (PG) Jodie Foster returns screen in the airborne thriller *tplan*, believable as a frantic r searching for her daughter transatlantic flight. Unfortu- y, she is the only one keeping ovie on course, what with writ- ter A. Dowling and Billy Ray ding steady suspense only to us hanging. Everyone but Fos- behaves like a plot device in a tiple-choice exercise. The con- mate pro tries her best to single- dedly carry the movie, but when great mystery is solved, it's with sense of "oh, okay" ennui. ★☆☆ (MH)

ry Potter and the Goblet of Fire pretty good storytelling, real- Androcentric J.K. Rowling is ty handy with the ol' making up, but hand it to director Mike well for keeping this from coming as an awkwardly nailed ther sequence of episodes in the of the youngish wizard. The come here really get the idea magical space is, wich ns there's enough space that can see what's happening, s always scarier than the ed Mess of Doom that we usu- get. The story? Harry goes on adventure, which is good and rather than sickly treacly, with y sense of humour underneath it ★★★★☆ (KW)

llace & Gromit: Curse of the e-Rabbit (G) *Chicken Run* co- tor Nick Park returns to his s with the long-awaited big- er debut of the quintessentially sh Wallace and Gromit. The idious and talkative Wallace his silent but no less expressive ch star in *Curse of the Were- bit*, and fans smitten with the since their 1989 Oscar-nomi- short *A Grand Day Out* will much to smile about in this warm and downright ade to veggies, rabbits and werewolf movies. The kids prob- won't get some of the subtext, hey will laugh their heads off, so will you. ★★★★☆ (MH)

k the Line You cheer for infideli- ty you and Joaquin Phoenix's ny Cash fully convinced that Carter (Reese Witherspoon) ove him. Cash's downfall is the of the movie, but *Walk the* eaks its dialogue in a believ- meter, self-aware soliloquies ing up the writer's themes at a ant low. Thankfully, Phoenix, ly less weird-looking than has about the same charisma. good story, full of winks to geeks and honestly funny his- al cameos. Because Phoenix desperation and fear and mis- standing so well, it's no sur- that he can also handle obses- narcotic love. ★★★★☆ (FG)



Water (PG) Deepa Mehta's latest film was almost never completed. Mehta originally began production in 2000, until an angry mob sabotaged and later destroyed the sets. *Water* was re-shot secretly in Sri Lanka, and debuted at the Toronto Film Festival five years later. When Chuyia (first-time actor Sarala) learns she is a widow, she is sent by her father to live as a beggar with other widows. *Water* sometimes seems overly straightforward and unsubtle, sledgehammering home its sympathy with the women. But lest we think that it's obvious and didactic, we are reminded widows are still mistreated in the 21st Century. ★★★★☆ (MS)

Classifications:

(NA) Not available at press time

(G) Suitable for viewing by all ages

(PG) Parental guidance advised

(14A) & (18A) Persons under 14 must be accompanied by an adult

(R) & (A) Admittance restricted to 18 and older

Reviewers: Dave Alexander, Fish Griwkowsky, Mike Hebert, Celia Nichols, Mari Sasano, Zoltan Varadi, Kevin Wilson

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"It's not an offensive weapon, it's defensive, like mace. It's my way of getting myself over on people who [illegible]

E'ville State of Mind

Rollie "Cadence Weapon" Pemberton authenticates Alberta hip hop

●●●

ENCE WEAPON
ing, *Kayfabe*
ar Press)
ites now

"CADENCE IS MY WEAPON ...st." Rollie Pemberton pauses ...long time.

...usually long.

...he Edmonton rapper/writer, ...performs under the name ...ence Weapon, isn't the sort ...usually tongue-tied. The kid ...when he sets his mind to it, a ...ligious mouth and a proclivity ...mnastic gymnastics. As much a ...rapper, (he writes for online ...ations, including the popular ...music review site, as well ...paper), he keeps tabs on all ...not only hip-hop but music ...at large.

...comes to his genre of ..., he's more than game to dis... pros and cons, its flaws and ...tures, be it at a local, national, ...ational level. Mind you, ...the subject turns to the nation... more apt to point to undesir...tics. "There're some people ...doing some weird afro... ...thing with African drummers ...wearing Dashikis and ...I'm like, 'Yo... why?' All ...raps are about how they hate ...commercial guys, but isn't that ...? It's ironic, no? They're ...about how redundant these ...rappers are, but that is redun... ...of itself. C'mon!"

...ord, as with his latest, ...*Kayfabe*, he's as keen on ...about the post-adolescent ...everyday life ("So I'm ...the Funky Pickle, nothing ...Came out with just nap... ...was something pitiful") as he ...more personal matters ("Hearing my heart beat through my ears, years of tears/Leers and jeers from searing peers mirrored my fears/And that's junior high speaking, I've moved past it/I could hear the rocked bells, it started to get mastered").

But honestly articulating yourself on the record about the personal politics that inform your work, especially for a 19-year-old operating a genre where it's often hard to hear above the boasts... Well such a task takes some deliberation.

"It's not an offence weapon, it's defensive, like mace," he finally says. "It was my way of getting myself over on people who used to disrespect me; people used to give me no respect, but, once I started rapping, people talked to me like I deserved to be talked to. Only recently have people been saying 'You're doing a good thing' or 'Good for you.' For the longest time I was not getting any propers in life, dude."

"I was not very popular," he continues, recalling the 10-year-old kid who wrote reviews for video game magazines, had a big noggin' (in the literal sense—in those days anyway: "my body hadn't grown to fit my head," he laughs), and was generally hassled in school.

But like others who discover a talent for something and stick with it as a means of coping with their peer group, Pemberton found a voice.

ROLLIE: FULLY LOADED

"People who get through being unpopular, you know—not cool or whatever —they have to form a personality or they have learn to do something, because people don't like them for them... That's revenge of the nerds right there," he laughs.

If anything, whatever disrespect he might encounter now—and he almost inevitably will in some quarters, due to the amount of attention he's been getting —will be for the opposite reasons.

His second full-length CD, and the first proper on a national label, has garnered him coverage in both weeklies here in town and the front page of the *Journal*'s culture section. Nationally, he's pulled in four-star reviews from publications like

> I'm not going to rap about some rims—I don't even have a license. It's just about being yourself.

Toronto's *Now* ("Hardcore headz may be puzzled, but Prefuse 73 fans will have a new name to scrawl on their backpacks") and landed a spread in the *Globe and Mail*. Topping it all off, he'll be gracing the upcoming cover of *Maclean's* (although it's questionable whether that publication's readership will be inclined to buy his CD).

It's all for the right reasons, for once. *Breaking Kayfabe*, released through small but respected indie label Upper Class and distributed by the larger (but still respected) Sonic Unyon, stands, quite frankly, a cut above most Canadian hip-hop albums of late, and could hold it's with a substantial portion of releases internationally as well.

The opening track, the much-mentioned "Oliver Square," which is peppered with local references, uses a shred and diced hockey organ to underscore its regional identity. That sound—a sinister carnivalesque web of progressively twisted synths and samples, along with Pemberton's deliberately hunted and haunted narrative pacing can be traced to a heavy British Influence (he admits a love for Tricky and the current crop of grime) run through with a sort of an atmospheric kinship to Nas' "New York State of Mind," especially that song's foreboding "sleep is the first cousin of death" lyric (*Illmatic*, along with a Brand Nubian album, were the first albums he lifted from his father's collection).

But Pemberton frames the proceedings with what could be described as an urgency for authenticity—there are no bullets and bling in his songs, and he knows he needn't resort to hyperbole or fictitious street cred as prerequisites for examining some hard personal truths.

"Where did I come from and where will I go," he raps on what's arguably *Breaking Kayfabe*'s most powerful track, "Turning On Your Sign." In it, he confronts the darker corners of his relationship with his father Teddy, a popular DJ who passed away when he was 16. He'll be the first to tell you that his folks are/were good people—"When my parents used to blast tracks and dance in the streets... /They'd pump some Al Green and a bunch of Funkadelic/To his dying day, my father mailed me bootleg tapes"—but that doesn't mean that they get a reprieve from his rhymes—"Respect for my elders, how long would that last?/Cash crops in the basement, topped with black ash."

"These things happened in the basement that weren't necessarily legal," he says. "I didn't really mind growing up around it, but I see what it does to people now. Not even just weed or anything, just the whole idea of drugs. Even yesterday, I'm at my house and a couple of people were over, and they're all like, 'Let's get to the basement and do some laundry.' I'm like, 'Who the fuck are you people?' These are my friends, you know? Laundry... that's funny, 'cause my washing machine is broken."

BREAK ON THROUGH

Breaking Kayfabe isn't a flawless record—but it is a supremely promising start. There are moments where the veneer slips—if only for a flash, when he's negotiating a slippery syllable or an awkward rhyme, and the self-possessed rapper you just heard surfaces as a regular kid taking his turn with the mic. And perhaps that's wherein the real charm of the record lies: the title is a term for when a wrestler steps out of character, and by doing so reveals the illusion of his "sport."

"I feel like I'm rapping about these truths," says Pemberton, "and I feel like I'm doing my best to expose them. Truths within the realm of commercialism or even being honest with yourself as an artist, rapping about where you're from and things that you actually know about. I'm not going to rap about some rims—I don't even have a license, so I'm not going to be rapping about cars and stuff. It's just about being yourself."

ZOLTAN VARADI

Attention, all shoppers...

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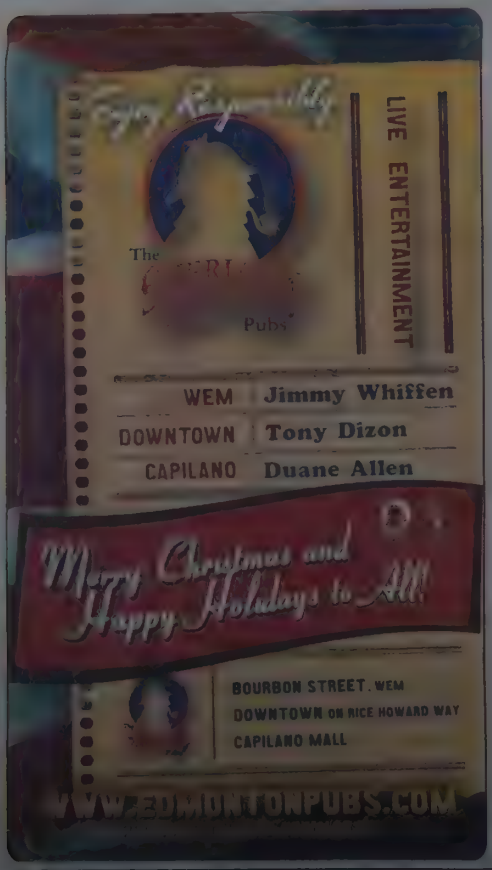
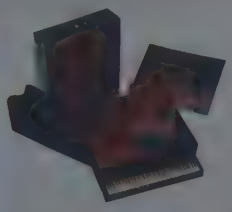
AS MUCH AS YOU WANTED TO AVOID it, vowing to get your shopping done on time so you wouldn't have to darken their doors in your quest for that unique gift, you can't forestall it any longer—it's time to pick up something from the CD store Yes, you did your best, but now the 11th hour is upon us and you're exhausted by the crowds and the parking lots, and the mere thought of scouring just one more shop for that one-of-a-kind trinket is enough to drive you to tears. Fear not, though, you needn't buy The Essential Simon & Garfunkel, thereby conveying the message "I couldn't find anything good so I got you this." We asked *SEE*'s stable of music writers to suggest a gift (or two or three) that they've already test-driven and deemed a worthy bundle of Yuletide cheer.

Or, if you did manage to get all your shopping done, don't forget about these suggestions when you're looking for ways to dispense of grandma's Christmas cash reward (or the gift certificates from a relative who didn't read this guide) on Boxing Day.





HOLY SOUL, JELLY ROLL
Jelly Roll Morton *The Complete Library of Congress Recordings* (Boxed Set), Rounder Records, From $197.99

Unless you're a fanatic for the 88 keys, eight CDs worth of early piano jazz, rags, stomps, and blues courtesy of the self-described "inventor of jazz" might seem like an excessive purchase. It does seem like a daunting task to get through, but it's also fascinating and, yes, entertaining to hear that venerable New Orleans composer talk in between numbers about the early days of the music he claims to have had such an integral part in creating. Recorded in two monumental sessions (in 1938 and 1947), primarily at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. by musicologist Alan Lomax, Jelly Roll offhandedly plows his way through such numbers as "Original Jelly Roll Blues," "King Porter Stomp," and "Tiger Rag" with characteristic style and exuberance. In addition to this wealth of musical arcana, Rounder has gone all out on the project, housing the CDs in a nifty cardboard piano with an accompanying booklet, Robert Crumb illustrations, and a copy of Alan Lomax's 1950 biography, *Mister Jelly Roll*.

TOM MURRAY

EXISTENTIAL X-MAS
Fields Awake CD/DVD, Limited edition: $35, Regular edition: $20, Available at Blackbyrd Myoozik, Southside Sound, Megatunes

Somewhere under the bustle of forced festive gaiety rampant at this point in the year, where darkness outweighs the light by a hefty margin, there's a deeper undercurrent of contemplative reckoning. The philosophically inclined would appreciate *Fields Awake*, a strange but ultimately lovely aural and visual meditation on death and the question of what comes next. Edmonton electro/acoustic-folk composer Mark Templeton rounded up an able group of musical colleagues to expand on his gorgeous guitar themes and laced the music with field recordings of afterlife musings by people such as a European world war battlefield tour guide and Templeton's terminally-ill grandfather. Filmmaker Sean Corbett helped Templeton interpret his work visually, mostly using Alberta landscapes and skyscapes to expand on the musical motifs. It's an intense journey, but far from a downer—a good choice for someone who digs Phillip Glass, The Books, Boards of Canada, or aural art. A handful of limited editions are left, one-of-a-kind, hand-bound packages that each feature a different image from the DVD.

CHRISTA O'KEEFE

SMOOTH MOVE
Velvet Underground *Peel Slowly and See* (Boxed Set), Universal Music, From $68.99

Peel Slowly and See fails as a complete record of the Velvet Underground's output. (What live tracks there are here seem to have been chosen at random, and there are several missing pieces to the band's studio work.) But who cares? What's left is the vast majority of everything that the band ever recorded, and anyone from the casual fan to the completist would benefit from the boxed set's treatment of one of the most influential bands of all time.

Disc one runs through rehearsal demos of the band's formative sessions, with each subsequent disc featuring all four of the studio albums appended chronologically with unreleased tracks from each of the sessions. The packaging features the classic *Velvet Underground & Nico* cover, complete with the peeling banana and a book featuring a thorough run through of the band's history. This is seminal stuff, a must for anyone with enough holes in their Velvet Underground catal[illegible] warrant the purchase. Just [illegible] leave some room on your [illegible] *The Quine Tapes* ($35.99, P[illegible] Records) for an essential lo[illegible] band in a live setting.

JAMES [illegible]

BLUES GRAB BAG
The B.B. King Treasures, B[illegible] Press, $30.95

A stunning collection o[illegible] stories, and music from B[illegible] collected and told by awar[illegible] ning biographer and photo[illegible] Dick Waterman. Includes [illegible] CD with previously unrel[illegible] tunes and an interview, in[illegible] posters, backstage passes [illegible]
Muddy "Mississippi" Water[illegible] *Live—The Legacy Edition*, S[illegible] $31.99

This two-disc set includ[illegible] original recording—a live [illegible] formance—plus a second [illegible] previously unreleased mat[illegible] recorded at the same show [illegible] extensive liner notes by Ro[illegible] don and Bob Margolin.
Howlin' Wolf *The London S[illegible] Deluxe Edition*, Universal, From [illegible] $42.99

In 1971, some of the top Bri[illegible] blues rockers sat in with [illegible] idols, Howlin' Wolf. Eric Cl[illegible] Steve Winwood, Charlie W[illegible] Bill Wyman are just some of the [illegible] familiar names that took par[illegible] disc set includes the origina[illegible] an additional disc of music [illegible] but not released during the sam[illegible] sessions, along with extensive [illegible] notes

CAM HA[illegible]

DREAMING OF A WHITE NOISE CHRISTMAS
Kraftwerk *Minimum Maxim[illegible]* (DVD), Kling Klang/EMI, Fro[illegible] $36.90, **Skinny Puppy** *The C[illegible] Wrong of the Right Live* (DVD, S[illegible] thetic Symphony/SPV, From [illegible]

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See Last minute, pa[illegible]

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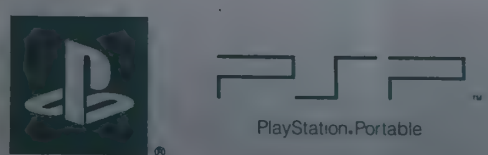

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Last minute

Continued from page 26

As the title of Kraftwerk's *Minimum Maximum* seems to imply, this double DVD does seem like minimal effort for maximal profit. However, unlike the double-live album of the same title released earlier this year, the DVD-edition is a much better introduction to the band—essentially a collection of greatest hits completed by the striking visuals that make Kraftwerk's performances so compelling.

This double-disc is available both in a standard edition and a limited box set: the latter designed to mimic a laptop—titled, of course, *Notebook*—containing both the DVD and CD editions of *Minimum Maximum* and an 88-page book of photos and "technical tour information."

The latest Skinny Puppy DVD stands in stark contrast to Kraftwerk's effort, complementing last year's comeback, *The Greater Wrong of the Right*, with a double-disc containing recent live performances and archival material. Expanded for maximal effect, disc one captures the band performing at Toronto's Koolhaus and Montreal's Spectrum, while disc two includes a documentary by the band's videographer, William Morrison, which deals with the invasion of Iraq, as well as archival footage from previous tours.

However, the most striking addition is the short documentary *Eurotrauma*, edited down from some 70 hours of video shot mainly by Dwayne Goettel during the band's 1988 tour of Europe. It explores the more jovial side of this otherwise rather lugubrious outfit, presenting the trio in an unaffected manner—as the three regular blokes from western Canada they once were. Essential stocking filler for serious fans and pandas alike.

LECH LINKIEL

BOOZY BEST OF
Guided By Voices *The Electrifying Conclusion*, Plexifilm, From $31.99

The final Guided By Voices show on New Year's 2004 was a hell of a long haul—four hours of culling songs from the band's endless repertoire, two buckets beside the drummer marked "puke" and "piss" as mute testimony to the band's determination. This DVD captures the entirety of the performance, keeping in the bare patches of incoherent stage banter from frontman Robert Pollard as the band tuned up. It's a fair record of a typical GBV performance; despite knowing that the show would be recorded for posterity, there's no attempt by the group to play straight. Still, they sound great right up until the end, happily churning out fan favourites such as "Watch Me Jumpstart," "I Am A Scientist," and "Alone, Stinking and Unafraid" as they get progressively blotto. That's an important part of the band's history, like it or not—sloppiness always befitted the band, as did their legendary capacity for alcohol. The drinking gets heavier as the show progresses—at least one of the guitarists is reduced to staggering ineptitude, while Pollard manages to somehow keep it together despite his occasional garrulous drunken asides. Plexifilm did a good job of putting this package together: a copy of the final set list, blo[illegible] to poster size, is included, al[illegible] a companion booklet, and [illegible] footage of Pollard in the studio working on demos for "Girls of V[illegible] Strawberries" and "Window[illegible] World."

TOM MURR[illegible]

RHINO ROUNDS UP RAMONES
The Ramones *Weird Tales of [illegible] Ramones* (Boxed Set), Rhino [illegible]

Countless things have been sa[illegible] and written about The Ramones, especially in recent years as [illegible] books have taken up revisiting the band's past, deconstructing and analyzing what made The Ramones the Beatles of punk music. With [illegible] re-issuing all of The Ramones [illegible] releases over the past year, the [illegible] of a box set might seem rather unattractive to those [illegible] have already started making an investment. But, if you're a real[illegible] hardcore fan or [illegible] simply wants to [illegible] something out of the ordinary, you'll want to beg Santa for this set. *Weird Tales* computed [illegible] Johnny Ramone before his death. Enclosed in [illegible] absolutely flawless design (a comic book within a hardcover [illegible]ume wrapped in a comic book) [illegible] essential selections spanning [illegible] breadth of their career on four [illegible] and a DVD. And with its snazzy [illegible] of retro 3-D glasses, this puts all [illegible] other box collections to shame.

FRANÇOIS MARCH[illegible]

Classic carols and alternatives ode[illegible]

SO, YOU AGREED TO PLAY HOLIDAY host this year, for some reason, and you're thinking about the food, the tree, and how you're possibly going to jam all of your friends, in-laws, and outlaws into your place. But don't forget about the music. There aren't as many new holiday-themed releases being made these days, but by scanning the back catalogues you'll find selections across all genres, from punk to electronica to free jazz, and by artists as diverse as James Brown, Mojo Nixon, and The Ventures. Let's start with the best then head to the rest.

The greatest Christmas album ever made is Nat King Cole's *The Christmas Song* (EMI). The recording was first released in 1960 but still sells bootloads of copies every year because once you've heard it you pretty much have to own it. The title track (a.k.a "Chestnuts Roasting On An Open Fire") is what it's best known for but the whole thing is beautiful and insanely soulful. His rendition of "O Holy Night" will warm even the coldest heart.

It's just one of many holiday favorites from the Golden Age that still holds up well. Bing Crosby's *Merry Christmas* (MCA,) Burl Ives' *Have A Holly, Jolly Christmas* (MCA) and Elvis' *Christmas Album* (RCA) will all find agreeable audience spanning all ages at your place.

And jazz fans who already have Vince Guaraldi's *A Charlie Brown Christmas* (Fantasy) or Ella Fitzgerald's *Swinging Christmas* (Verve) will want to hear Yule Struttin' [illegible] collects Blue Note's finest Xmas [illegible] from Count Basie to Chet Baker.

Off the beaten path but well exec[illegible] *New Wave Xmas*—part of the larger [illegible] Can't Get Enough" series of '80s alter[illegible] music on Rhino. Featuring not-so-well-[illegible] classics from the fun (XTC's "Thank[illegible] Christmas") to the beautiful ("Fairytale [illegible] New York" from The Pogues and Kirsty [illegible] Coll), thee disc has all tastes covered. It's pretty much the only place you can find [illegible] Bowie/Bing version of "Little Drummer [illegible] from back in the day.

Another '80s standard: Boney M's [illegible] *Greatest Christmas Songs* (Arista) [illegible] only know them for "Rasputin" [illegible] not think you've heard this, but if you [illegible] the radio on or been in a mall over the [illegible] 25 years, you have. The disco [illegible] "Feliz Navidad," "Mary's Boy Child" [illegible] the awesome "Zion's Daughter" might [illegible] dance circle around the tree this year.

PROSPER PRODN[illegible]

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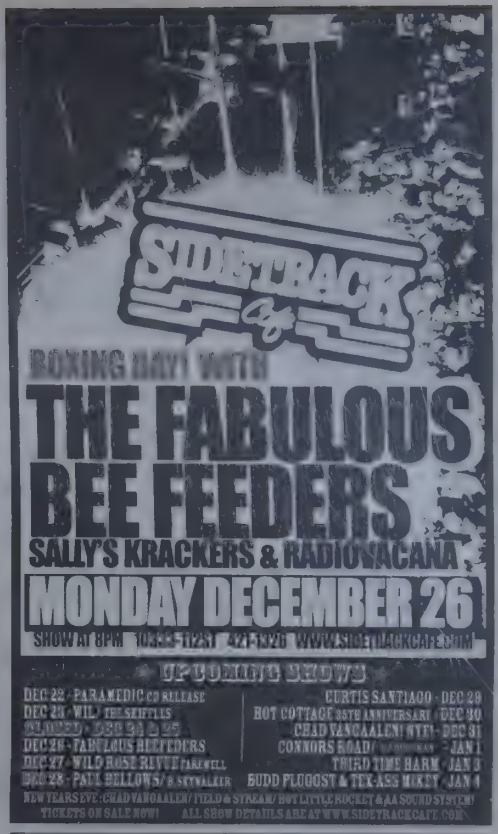

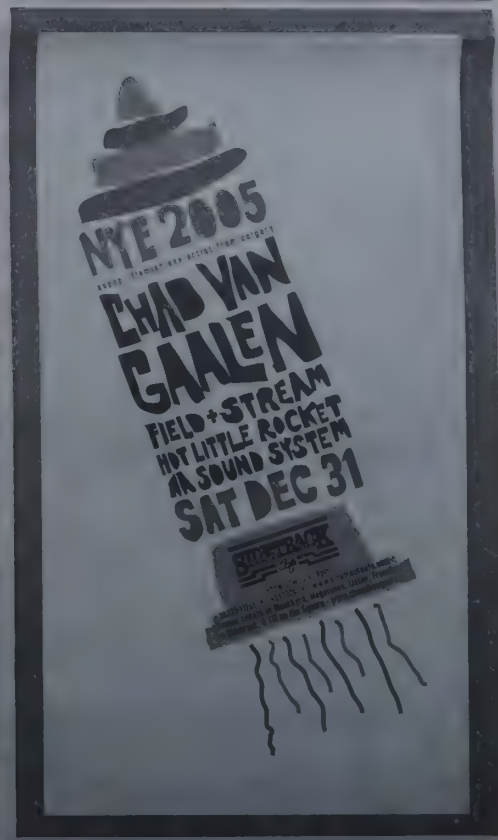

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Lords of the rings

Ringtones are the media industry's latest big sell

WHEN YOUR CELL RINGS, WE FIND OUT who you are. Or aspire to be. Which is why an increasing number of new tracks are sold as ring tones before they hit the record shacks. As of now, the future of music is in your pocket.

In a recent episode of the popular series *CSI: New York*, one of the main characters had downloaded Coldplay's latest single, "Talk," as a ring tone. The song had barely reached the record stores in more traditional formats, when, during a commercial break, American viewers found that it was available as a ring tone for $2.50 US. Coldplay evidently learned their lesson after being denied the top spot on the British pop chart by a—to put it mildly—irritating ring tone known as Crazy Frog.

MUSIC BIZ CROAKS

Last summer, that computer animated frog-like creature of Swedish origin made music history–despite the fact that nobody seemed to like it. Even Coldplay vocalist Chris Martin, hitherto known as one of the world's most well-mannered vegetarians, wanted to rip its legs off and eat it. His sentiments were, no doubt, backed by the novelty track "Kill the Frog" by the equally novel band Frog Must Die.

Although Crazy Frog could very well be held responsible for driving hordes of innocent people out of their minds, streaking down virtual streets atop its imaginary hog every time someone's cell rang, but "it" also represents an important step in the technological development of the music industry.

In order to counter the losses incurred by waning sales of physical records, the labels that dominate the recording industry have set up their own digital departments that market increasingly advanced ring tone-versions of popular recordings. This coincides with the technological development of cell phones—which is not unlike that of computer games and video game consoles—away from simply melodic, yet monotonous loops to fully-fledged pieces of music. Viewed in combination, it's clearly only a question of time before the cell phone replaces the CD player as well as the mp3 player.

The business of selling music is undergoing a fundamental change. The "single" as we know it, almost extinct in North America but still somewhat viable in Europe, is as good as dead. Todd Moscowits, head poobah at Asylum Records, part of multinational media giant Warner, recently told *Rolling Stone Magazine*, all of his new projects start with the launch of a ring tone. Like Atlanta hip-hoppers D4L, whose breakthrough hit, "Laffy Taffy," was released as a ring tone long before it hit the radio or was available in stores. When their debut album, *Down for Life*, popped up a month or so ago, the band had already sold more than half a million ring tones and topped charts of download sites like RingTone Jukebox and Jamster.

They want to increase traffic and sell content. It doesn't matter to them whether it's a record, a t-shirt, or a ring tone.

DIALING FOR DOLLARS

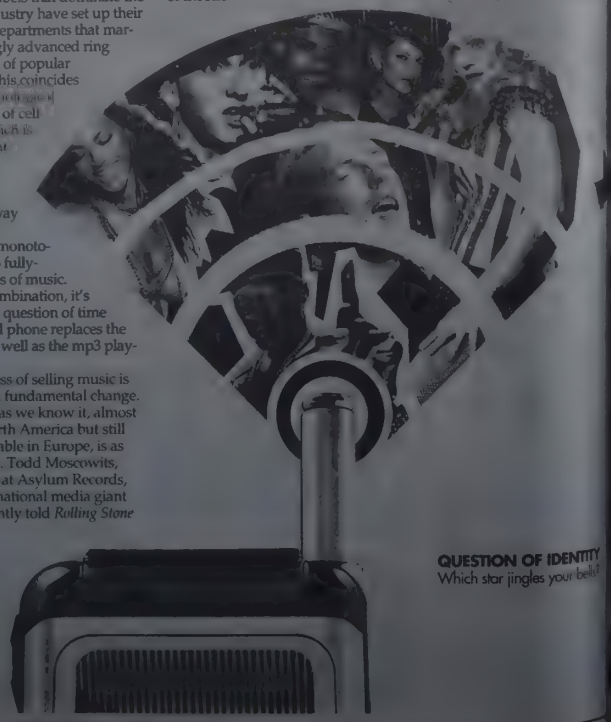
It's not by accident that hip hop and R&B acts were among the first to assault the world with ring tones. Their scaled down grooves, looped beats, and minimal-yet-instantly recognisable melodies were easily transmuted into ring tones at a very early stage, even when the currently available technology for turning a cell phone into a jukebox remained fairly limited. Hit singles by the likes of Eminem, 50 Cent, Ludacris, Usher, Ciara, and Destiny's Child move millions of dollars in the form of ring tones.

But as television enters the arena of mobile phones, it won't be long bef[illegible] performances in video will [illegible] ted straight to your pocket [illegible] ular basis. During the last [illegible] val in Stockholm, one ser[illegible] provider did just that: bea[illegible] performances to paying [illegible] customers. After all, the [illegible] the telecommunications busin[illegible] have the same goal. They w[illegible] increase traffic and sell co[illegible] doesn't really matter to th[illegible] whether it's a record, a t-shirt [illegible] ring tone. In their view, the cel[illegible] phone is the future of music.

Only a couple of years [illegible] sole thing that kind of re[illegible] would buy was a single t[illegible] very snug shirt in a room [illegible] padded walls. The reason [illegible] appears to be a complete [illegible] conclusion is the math[illegible] tones raked in $US 2 billion g[illegible] mainly in Europe and Asia. [illegible] years later, this figure ha[illegible] which also means that tw[illegible] many ring tones were sold [illegible] singles, according to *Th[illegible] Online*. This year, global sales [illegible] tones is expected to reach $US[illegible] lion, making ring tones th[illegible] growing division of the re[illegible] industry.

The recording industry ha[illegible] known for a long time that mu[illegible] a question of identity, an[illegible] reflected by the ring tone[illegible] cell phone rapidly assum[illegible] increasingly central funct[illegible] lives. And it's not just th[illegible] tional media giants that h[illegible] taken by the profit potenti[illegible] ring tone, several small in[illegible] dents near you will no doubt [illegible] invest in turning an increasing [illegible] amount of the music you like [illegible] the ring tones you love to hate.

LECH [illegible]



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Born under a bad sign

The Stooges' antisocial anthems birth a new movement

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LECH LINKIEL

THE STOOGES
The Stooges
Produced by: John Cale, Released: August 1969, Studio: The Hit Factory, New York, Elektra # EKS 74001

ALBUM 24 (OUT OF 100)

ON AUGUST 15TH, 1969, SOME 400,000 kids gathered at Max Yasgur's farm, not far down the road from a place called Woodstock, New York, to indulge in peace, love, and fabulous music for a couple of days. A feeling of "the more the merrier" permeated the air, which, for the most part, was filled with more noxious fumes.

That same week, an album appeared featuring a young man whose musical and political outlook was far removed from the endearing, yet basically naive, ideals of the flower-generation. Iggy Pop and his Stooges, hailing from the musically fruitful Ann Arbor region of Michigan, gave voice to teenage angst, boredom, frustration, nihilism, and unwillingness to compromise, while pioneering a new, aggressive musical genre that didn't even get a name until six or seven years later.

STREET WALKIN' CHEETAHS

While Melanie, Joan Baez, Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, and others sang about birds and bees a bit down the road from Woodstock, the maniacal vocalist of The Stooges blurted out "Well, it's 1969, OK / War across the USA", without really having a clue as to who or what he was waging war with. With guitarist Ron Asheton frenetically feeding fuzzed, distorted, wah-wah chords in layers above Dave Alexander's pumping bass and Scott Asheton's noisy drums, the racket was, to say the least, deafening.

The Stooges weren't the first to produce such cacophony, but their attitude was different: this wasn't the cultivated performance art of New York's Velvet Underground, nor the hard yet life affirming rock of the Rolling Stones. It was a brick through your neighbour's window, tossed by a bored, irritated and moody snot, who in order to dodge the draft and the inevitable trip to Vietnam consumed so much drugs he barely found his way back home mentally.

That attitude was completely devoid of anything that could be described as engagement or feeling. Nothing was fun anymore. "No fun to hang around:... no fun to be alone." So what the hell was there to do? "Maybe go out / maybe stay home / maybe call mom on the telephone" ("No Fun"). It was a long way from John Sebastian's "I Had a Dream."

The Stooges never became a national phenomenon, with everything that would've entailed as far as influence is concerned. Their albums have acquired their true importance after the fact, and then only in a historical perspective. But back home in Michigan, Iggy Pop had already gained notoriety prior to the first album's release, with stage antics that fused masochism and psychodrama with self-destructive urges and a brutal sexuality—as expressed in tracks like "I Wanna Be Your Dog."

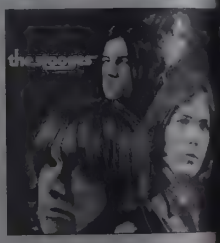
NEW NOISE

No one could be sure if the band, which took its name from the Three Stooges, would perform for ten minutes or an hour. Often, the "gigs" would end prematurely, as Iggy become embroiled in altercations with members of the audience—quite often getting his ass kicked. That's what happens when you insist on picking fights with individuals of much more substantial stature than yourself, kids.

It was their buddies in The MC5 that managed to get The Stooges a recording deal with Elektra. In June 1969, The Stooges travelled to New York for recording sessions with Welsh producer John Cale, formerly a prominent member of the Velvet Underground. They brought with them an embarrassingly small repertoire. Five tracks, to be exact: "Ann" (previously known as "The Dance of Romance"), "We Will Fall," "No Fun," "1969," and "I Wanna Be Your Dog." Roughly 18 minutes of rock.

Nowhere near enough to produce an album, but The Stooges managed to convince Elektra-boss Jac Holzman that they had hundreds of track to choose from, and Holzman told them they had two days to pick out the best. So Ron Asheton spent the first day barricaded in a hotel room and picked out a couple of basic chord progressions that Iggy put lyrics to. On the second day new bits were rehearsed, and then it was time to enter the studio.

The album took an additional two days to record, most of the tracks being nailed on the first take. The mixing was the only thing that had to be redone, as John Cale's take on the band's sound was considered too wimpy compared to how The Stooges normally appeared on stage.



As expected, the album didn't become a huge seller for Elektra, who nevertheless kept The Stooges around for a follow up.

Funhouse, recorded under chaotic circumstances on the West coast is perhaps a better album, with more even material and snazzier production (provided by The Kingsmen's Don Galucci). But it's *The Stooges* that contains the seed of a new era.

COMPLEMENTS

The Stooges *Funhouse*, 1970, Elektra # EKS 74701

Iggy Pop *Lust For Life*, 1977, RCA APL1 2488

Iggy Pop *American Caesar*, 1993, Virgin # 39002

Doggin' it

- "I Wanna Be Your Dog" has been selected among The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's "500 Songs That Shaped Rock and Roll."
- *The Stooges* peaked at number 106 on Billboard. Two singles, "I Wanna Be Your Dog" and "1969" fared slightly better.
- After nearly 33 years apart, The Stooges reunited in 2003 and are currently recording new material with producer Rick Rubin for release in the coming year.
- In September (2005), The Stooges were nominated for induction into The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

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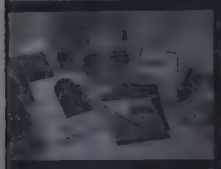

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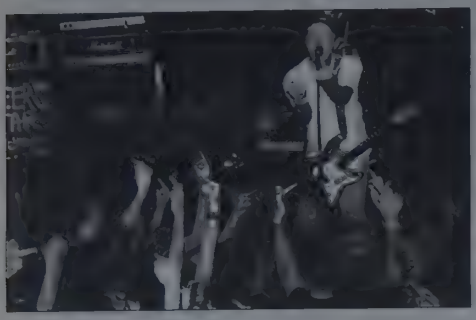

The Queers, New City
It's going to be dry as day-old turkey as far as gigs go for the next while. Luckily, New City pulled in The Queers and their bratty brand of infectious pop-punk to tide us over until New Year's. Thu, Dec 22. Info: 429-CLUB

THURSDAY

Brendan McLeod, Naked Cyber Café
Hip hop and comedy—your worst nightmare or a dream come true. Regardless, it's going down, and it's a pay-what-you-can affair.

FRIDAY

***A Christmas Carol*, Citadel Theatre**
We needn't explain this one—'cept it's as timeless as the ghosts of Christmas past, present, and future.

SATURDAY

Christmas Eve Roots Jam, Black Dog
Get seasonally soused to the sounds of The Mike MacDonald Broadband, Paul Bellows, Joe Bird, Wes Borg, and more.

SUNDAY

SCREAM FOR YOUR GOD!
Or go to a movie.

MONDAY

***Wolf Creek*, Playing at a theatre near you**
Shake off that Tryptophan hangover with this Aussie fright-fest.

TUESDAY

Wild Rose Revue Bon Voyage, Sidetrack Café
Say farewell to the lovely lasses and their bawdy burlesque show.

WEDNESDAY

Saint Crispin's Chamber Ensemble, Art Gallery of Alberta
Enjoy original, world, and classical music with your art.

NEXT THURSDAY

Homewrekers and Panik Attack, The Roost
Finally, it's time to rok again.

LIVE MUSIC

ALTERNATIVE

BACKROOM VODKA BAR *10324-82 Ave. (upstairs)* — Info: 436-4418.
BLACK DOG *10425-82 Ave.* 439-1082 — **Every Sun** Reclaim Sundays w/ Rubim de Toledo **Mon** The Mark Birtles Project
DINWOODIE LOUNGE *U of A Campus* — Info: 492-[illegible]
MEGATUNES *10355-82 Ave.* — Info: 434-6342.
MELTING POT *10351-82 Ave.* — Info: 433-6336
NEW CITY *10081 Jasper Ave., Palladium Building 429-CLUB* — **Thu** Queers
RENDEZVOUS PUB *10108-149 St.* — Info: 444-[illegible]
STARLITE ROOM *10030-102 St. 428-1099* — **Thu** Unbalanced, Shred of Decency & Sixgun.
VICTORY LOUNGE *10030-102 St. 428-7827* — **Fri** Coopers Cobras & Game Show
WUNDERBAR HOFBRAUHAUS *8120 — 101 St.* · Info: 436-2286

BLUES & ROOTS

BAR-B *4249-23 Ave.* — Info: 461-2244
BLIND PIG PUB *St. Albert, 418-6332* — **Fri** Rhythm Rockers.
BLUE CHAIR CAFÉ *9624-76 Ave., 989-2861* — **Thu** Two by Four
BLUES ON WHYTE *10329-82 Ave., 439-5058* — **Thu** · **Sat** Heavenly Blues Band **Mon** · **Wed** Trevor Finlay & Paul.
BUD'S LOUNGE *St. Albert* — Info: 458-3826
DUSTERS PUB *6402-118 Ave.* — Info: 474-5554.
IRISH CLUB *12546-126 St* — Info: 453-2249
JAX BEAN STOP *9 Sioux Rd., Sherwood Park* — Info: 415-3334.
KEEP IT SIMPLE CLUB *11720-82 St.* — Info: 471-4705
LB'S PUB *23 Akins Dr., St. Albert* — Info: 460-9100.
LEVEL 2 *11607 Jasper Ave., 2nd Floor* — Info: 447-[illegible]
NEWCASTLE PUB *6108-90 Ave.* —Info: 490-1999.
ORLANDO'S III *6104-104 St.* — Live band every Fri & Sat. Info: 988-5457.
PLAYBACK *594 Hermitage Rd.* — Info: 475-2309
ROSEBOWL *10111-117 St.* — Info: 482-2589.
ROSIE'S BARON BAR *6108-28 Ave.* — Info: 440-1570.
SNEAKY PETE'S BAR AND GRILL *12315-118 Ave* — Info: 451-7770.
THE DRUID *11606 Jasper Ave.* — Info: 454-9928.
UNCLE GLENN'S *7666-156 St.* — Info: 481-3192.
WHISTLE STOP LOUNGE *12416-132 Ave.* — Info: 451-5506.
XWRECKS *10143-50 St.* — Info: 466-8069.

JAZZ

ALLEGRO *10111-109 St., 424-6644* — **Fri** Terry Jordan.
BOGANI CAFÉ *23rd Ave. & 111 St.* — Info: 440-[illegible]
FOUR ROOMS *137 Edm City Centre East, 426-4767* — **Thu** · **Sat** Anna Beaumont.
JEFFREYS CAFÉ *9640-142 St., 451-8890* — **Thu** Alfie Zappacosta. Info: www.jeffreyscafe.com.
JULIAN'S PIANO BAR *Chateau Louis Hotel, 11727 Kingsway Ave., 732-4583* — **Every Mon, Tue & Sat** Graham's twisted jazz standards, 7 pm - 10:30 pm, **Wed** & **Fri**, Dennis Plays Favorites.
MURRETA'S BAR & GRILL *10612-82 Ave.* — Info: 438-4100.
SECOND CUP *11802 Jasper Ave.* · Info: 496-7616.
SECOND CUP ON WYE *120 Wye Road, Sherwood Park* · Info: 417-2226.
SORRENTINO'S WEST *6867-170 St., 444-0524* · Every **Sat** live jazz.
YARDBIRD SUITE *10203-86 Ave.* — Info: 423-0428.
ZENAR'S *10180-101 St. 423-5409* — Closed.

POP & ROCK

BACKDRAUGHT PUB *8307-99 St.* — Info: 430-[illegible]
BLIND DUCK *10416-118 Ave.* · Info: 479-7193.
BLUE CHICAGO *14203 Stony Plain Rd.* · Info: 451-1402
CASINO EDMONTON *7055 Argyll Rd., 463-9467* — **Thu** & **Fri** Party of Four.
CASINO YELLOWHEAD *12464-153 St., 424-9467* — **Thu** & **Fri** Saddle Ridge.
COWBOYS COUNTRY SALOON *10180-180 St.* · Info. 481-8739.
HAVANA CLUB & RESTAURANT *10220-103 St., 423-7707* — **Every Sat** Combo Re.
HONEST MUR'S *8937-82 Ave.* · Info: 463-6397.
J.J'S PUB *13160-118 Ave.* — Info: 451-9180.
J.P. RANCH SALOON *15326 Stony Plain Rd.* · Info: [illegible]
JAMMERS PUB *11948-127 Ave., 457-8779* — Live entertainment every **Fri** & **Sat**.
JEKYLL & HYDE PUB *10610-100 Ave., 426-5381* — **Fri** Headwind.
KINGSKNIGHT PUB *9221-34 Ave., 433-2599* — **Thu**, **Fri**, **Tue** & **Wed** The Three Amigos.
RED'S *WEM, 481-6420* — **Fri** Tommy & Hazeldean
SIDETRACK CAFÉ *10333-112 St., 421-1326* — **Thu** Paramedic CD Release Party w/ DJ Shortop **Fri** Wil w/ The Skillies **Sat** & **Sun** CLOSED **Mon** The Fabulous Beefeaters w/ Scillys Knackers & Radiovacana **Tue** The Wild Rose Revue Bon Voyage Party w/ Cordoba
THE GRINDER *10957-124 St. 453-1709* — **Fri** Connors Road.
THE POWER PLANT *U of A Campus* — Info: 492-3101.
URBAN LOUNGE *8103-105 St., 439-3388* — **Thu** & **Fri** Love Junk **Wed** Tommy w/ Rake.

PUB MUSIC

ATLANTIC TRAP & GILL *7704-104 St., 432-4611* — **Thu** & **Fri** Duff Robison.
CEILI'S IRISH PUB *10338-109 St., 426-5555* — **Every Mon** Student Nights w/ Captain Tractor **Every Fri** Kick It Bro's **Every Sat** Jamaoke.
CROWN & ANCHOR *15277-113 St.* — Info: 472-7696.
DUKE OF ARGYLL *7230 Argyll Rd.* — Info: 465-7931.
THE BEER HUNTER *7522-178 St.* — Info: 489-7877.
THE DRUID *11606 Jasper Ave.* — Info: 454-9928.
THE DRUID SOUTH *2940 Calgary Trail* — Info: 465-6800.

DANCE CLUBS

UPDATE YOUR CLUB LISTING BY CONTACTING SUSAN @ 430-9003, FAX 432-1102 OR EMAIL info@see.greatwest.ca.

ALTERNATIVE

BACKROOM VODKA BAR *10324-82 Ave., (upstairs), 436-4418* — **Mon** Local Motive · House, progressive, techno w/ guests **Wed** Wild Cherry Wednesdays · deep house & mid-tempo grooves w/ Tripswitch & guests **Fri** Element Fridays · DnB/house/breaks w/ Degree, Photcat, Neal K, Shortee, Sweetz & more **Sat** Flava · hip hop w/ Shortround, Echo & guests **Sun** Moonlight Cinema 9 pm · *Simpsons*, a movie & DJ.
BLUE CHICAGO *142003-Stony Plain Rd., 451-1402* — **Thu** British Invasion
BOOTS *10242-106 St. 423-5014* — Open 7 days/week. Happy Hour. 3 to 8 pm **Fri** Retro Disco **Sat** Flashback Saturdays w/ DJs Derrick & Manny Mulatto, Male Stripper, 11 pm
BUDDY'S NIGHT CLUB *11758-Jasper Ave., 488-6636* — **Sun** Stardust Lounge w/ Miz Bianca & Miz Vanity Fair, 11 pm, DJ Eddy Toonflash **Mon** Amateur Strip Contest w/Ashley Love & DJ Alvaro **Tue** Free pool, malebox, DJ Arrowchaser **Wed** Gurlz Gone Wild Midnite · DJ Eddy Toonflash, Mia Fellow, Ashley Love, Yohko Oh-no & guests **Thu** Wet Undies contest, 12:30 am, DJ Squiggles & Yohko Oh-no **Fri** DJ Alvaro dance party, male strippers **Sat** Theme parties, leather/fetish dungeon, free pool, pool tournament, DJ Arrowchaser
DANTE'S BISTRO *17328 Stony Plain Road., 486-4448* — **Fri** & **Sat**, DJ Johnny Sky Info: www.dantesbistro.com
DECADENCE *10018 – 105 St.* — **Thu** Soul Heaven w/ Sweetz, T-Bass, Resident Funk Fri Ladies night w/ DJ Smoov & guests, NC Sat Static & house w/ LP & Tomek **Sun** Worship w/ Big Daddy, DTDR & guests.
DEVLIN'S *10507-82 Ave., 437-7489* — Happy hour until 7 pm every night.
DEWEY'S *Powerplant (U of A)* — **Every Mon**, Margins of Sounds w/ Baggy and Pete-1, chills beats, dub reggae, hip hop
FILTHY MCNASTY'S *10511-82 Ave. (upstairs), 437-7489* — Happy Hour Every Day 5 -9 pm **Mon** Metal Mondays **Tue** Twisted Trivia **Wed** Bar star college night **Thu** Punk Rock Bingo Fri & Sat Shake Yo' Ass Weekend w/ DJ Sean. K (alt, rock, retro) **Sun** Industry night, half price everything.
HALO *10538 Jasper Ave., 423-4254* · Mod Club - Soul, R&B, indie, Brit p[illegible] reggae & classic punk w/ DJs Blu[illegible] **Sat** For Those Who Know · deep, h[illegible] Brown, Remo, Simon Locke (month[illegible]
JAX'S *12315-118 Ave., 448-3650* — Fri [illegible] Funk w/ DJ Resident Funk & Matt Ho[illegible] drum 'n' bass **Sat** DJ Nostalgia & [illegible] hardhouse, trance **NC Sun** Free po[illegible] freestyle (put your name down)
NEW CITY LIKWID LOUNGE *10081 Jas[illegible] 429-CLUB* — **Mon** electro, Brit Pop [illegible] Mannered & Lance Tue Bingo in the [illegible] **Wed** Gong Show w/ Skinny J Gu[illegible] Metal Thu Rub a Dub Thursdays w[illegible] Apostles **Fri** Your Weekly AA Meeti[illegible] & Jebus **Sat** Ass Shakin Funk w/ [illegible] Breakfluid **Sun** Bust a Nut w/ Remo[illegible]
NEW CITY SUBURBS *10081 Jasper Ave [illegible]* — **Tue** Bingo hosted by King Flux [illegible] Dildozer **Thu** Live music **Fri** Trashet[illegible] Squirrelly B & nik roselya **Sat** S.U.C.K [illegible] Roselya & Blue Jay.
PRISM BAR & GRILL *10524-101 St* [illegible] **Wed** Wings **Thu** Sports trivia. Call for up[illegible] events.
SAVOY BAR *10401-82 Ave.* — **Wed** [illegible] music w/ Canzi **Fri** Bubi: transcon[illegible] trash, w/ Flyboy **Sat** Wanderlust [illegible] w/ Ben Hot **Sun** Mondo Electreau [illegible] DJ Dan Electreau
SECRETS BAR & GRILL *10345-106 St* [illegible] **Mon** 2 for 1 Corona Night Wed Fre[illegible] pm **Thu** Music Sports Fri & Sat DJ [illegible]
STARLITE ROOM *10030-102 St* — Wed [illegible] Wednesdays w/ DJ Jason LP Fri Cre[illegible] w/ DJ Jason LP
TANTRA *10147 Saskatchewan Dr., 434-8699* [illegible] **Mon** - **Thu** & **Sun** 5 pm - Midnight. Fri & Sat pm - 2 am (Dancing 10 pm - 2 am)
THA BASSMENT INC. *125208-118 Ave 488-[illegible]* — Hip-hop, R&B, & Top 40 Music All ages dance club every **Fri** & **Sat**.
THE ATTIC *10407-82 Ave., 433-1969* — **Wed** [illegible] ball Night **Thu** Student Nite.
THE ELEPHANT & CASTLE WHYTE AVE [illegible] *Ave., 439-4545* — **Thu** Sleeman Mathat Thursdays – DJ Headspin, down-tempo & [illegible] hip hop. www.sandcwhyte.com
THE ROOST *10345-104 St., 426-3150* — Hou[illegible] **Sun** – **Thu**, **8 pm** – **3 am**; Fri & Sat, 8 pm – [illegible] **Tue** Flamingo Bingo w/ DJ Jonny Wed Ama[illegible] Strip w/ Weena Luv, Sticky Vicky & DJ Alex Happy hour till Midnight **Thu** Rokaria show [illegible] Sticky's open stage & the Weakest Link Gam[illegible] 2nd & last Thu, DJ Jazzy, drink specials [illegible] pm **Fri** Euro Blitz, best new European music [illegible] DJ Outtawalk upstairs, DJ Jazzy **Sat** Monthly theme parties, DJ Jazzy upstairs (new music) [illegible] Dan & Mike downstairs (retro music) **Sun** [illegible] Ford Hangover Clinic show, DJ Jazzy Info [illegible] www.theroostnuteclub.com
TWILIGHT AFTERHOURS *10018-105 St* — Fri [illegible] Flashback house/hard w/ Johnny Dangerou[illegible] Andy Inertia w/ guests **Sat** hard NRG/trance/funky w/ Jeff Hillis, Stx, Big [illegible] DTDR, Tweek!
UNION HALL *Argyll & 99st., 702-0318* — Thu[illegible] ball specials **Fri** Ladies Night **Sat** T 'N' A [illegible] Saturdays.
VICTORY LOUNGE *10030-102 St.* — **Tue** The [illegible] Beat - Exit the old style, enter the new w/ DJ [illegible] Cadence Weapon, **Wed** Panic Wednesday [illegible] DJ David Stone, Thu Nrmls Wlcm w/ DJ Nig[illegible] Kokanee Live Music Series.
WUNDERBAR HOFBRAUHAUS *8120 – 101 St.* [illegible] *436-2286* — **Mon** Rad Tordesons Armada [illegible] Herman Menderchuck **Tue** Shakedown [illegible] Patrol **Wed** Psycho Nite w/ DJs Sevzuns [illegible] Bologna & Taka it to the Hill Rahil Thu Up & [illegible] Down Thursday w/ DJs Loopin the 3rd & [illegible] Slice Fri Sergio Georgini's Friday [illegible] DJ Calibar **Sat** Soundcheck Saturday [illegible] Shumba.
Y AFTERHOURS *10028-102 St.,* (alley entrance) **Fri** Foundation - house/garage/breaks w/ [illegible] Anthony Donahue, Nestor Delano Dragon [illegible] Wade, Rooho, Bree, Nic-E **Sat** Release funky/electek/hard house w/ Luke Morrison [illegible] Erin Eden, Donovan, Darcy Klein, Bryan Do[illegible]

TOP 40

ARMOURY DANCE LOUNGE *10310-85 Ave* [illegible] *1800* — **Mon** Go-girl night - ladies [illegible] entertainment, magician, balloon [illegible] cials **Thu** 5 for $5 Fri Hot for Teacher Sat [illegible] '80s-'90s upstairs/Top 40 downstairs Long **Weekend** Colour parties – choose a [illegible] and plan a party. Info: www.armoury dancelounge.com
AZUCAR *11733-78 St., 479-7400* — Wed Free [illegible] Salsa Lessons Thu Free Salsa Lessons Fri [illegible] Salsa Lessons Fri & Sat Live latin band & [illegible] Info. www.edmontonazucar.com
BAR NONE *10545-82 Ave., 432 5058* — Drink specials all night Fri & Sat
BILLIARD CLUB *#200, 10505-82 Ave* [illegible] Thu Tantric Thursdays, Live DJ, drink specials
BLIND DUCK *10416-118 Ave., 479* [illegible]

Fri DJ Grand Master Rich Carr'
CHICAGO 14203-Stony Plain Rd., 451-1402 — Fri & Sat DJ Taco in a Bag, rap, r&b
ECT 10018-106 St., 428-1629 — Fri DJ & Tryptomena.
NIGHT CLUB 10815 Jasper Ave., 425- — Thu Urban Substance Ladies Night Fri on Fridays w/ DJ Invinceable Sat DJ Ladies Night w/ DJ Invinceable, Old Skool w/ DJ Shoka-Sean, DJ Sin & DJ Tue Bashment reggae night.
PUB 10338-109 St., 426-5555 — Get Your Funk On w/ Quake Fri Cinco De Cinco & Various Fundraisers, Wed Hot Wheels NIGHTCLUB 10345-105 St., 969-6969 — Calypso & Latin dance Fri Studio Friday, R&B, hop & reggae.
'S 8318-144 Ave., 478-1770 — Sat Ladies w Top 40 Sun happy hour all day, free pool EW PUB 132 Ave & Victoria Tr., 414-1111 ive & Thu Karaoke Wed DJ Lex & DJ Fiore DJ Fiore plays today's hottest hits & yester- classics NC event
LOUNGE 10336 Jasper Ave., 426-7521 — fundraiser Night, call 990—3692 for book- Sat Legendary Urban Saturdays - R&B, hip reggae, soca w/DJ Invinceable & MC J- Sat.
ULTRA LOUNGE WEM, 489-1330 — Wed Wednesdays, Ladies Night Fri ambert Fridays Sat Saturday Night House w/ Urban Metropolis feat. Jin the emcee in concert. Info: www.escapenightclub.com.
CITY 10136-100 St., 428-3399 — Sat Xlusive days, hosted by Kwame.
LOUNGE Jasper & 109 St., 906-7939 — Sat
LOUNGE Mayfield Inn, 16615-109 Ave., 489-4061 — Thu Rock 'n' Roll Trivia Fri & Sat DJ
JUMP 10166-114 St., 488-4841 — Fri & Sat music by DJ Christian Sun Open most long Wed Sundays. Dance music by DJ Travis. mandatory coat check/dress code/no cover
R SKY LOUNGE 11505-118 Ave. — Info: quirsky.com.
TAP BAR & GRILL 10045-109 St., 426-7111 Fri & Sat Top 40 w/ dancing Sun Industry
SPORTS BAR & LOUNGE 10044-82 Ave., 433-5794 — Tue & Thu & Sat & Sun Karaoke DJ Double Jack plays the best in dance, rock & pop
ANA CLUB & RESTAURANT 10220-103 Ave., 707 — Wed Ladies Night Thu Free lessons Thu & Fri 717 Entertainment Urban, Hip Hop & Ragge beats.
HORSE 8101-103 St., 438-1907 — Fri DJ Cannon Sat Urban dance party w/ DJ
'S 11540 Jasper Ave., 451-8825 — Mon Free Wed & Sun Karaoke Happy Hour 11 am - 7 pm daily
NIGHT PUB 9221-34 Ave, 433-2599 — live music, karaoke w/ Smirking Jay in the Ladies Night in the Venue w/ male 8 pm, karaoke 11 pm, live band 10 pm Kingsknight Sat Karaoke in the Venue 9 bands 10 pm in the Kingsknight.
BAR 1163 Knottwood Rd., 440-1063 — Sat DJ Dave Sun Karaoke.
10250-106 St. — Wed, Thu & Sat, info:
CASTLE PUB & GRILL 6108-90 Ave., 490-1999 — The Student's Night w/ Hip Hop DJ Odin, Fri Music Sat Ladies Night & Live Music.
DIAMONDS 8130 Gateway Blvd., downstairs, — Fri & Sat DJ w/Dancing, Top 40 &
BROILER & TAPROOM 10304-111 St., — Thu Extreme Thursdays feature & cool music
BROILER & TAPROOM SOUTH Whitemud & 106 St., 485-1717 — Thu - Sat DJ
Ave & St Albert Tr., 451-8022 — Tue w/ Wyld Stallions Wed Wing night Fri music
Wayne Gretzky Dr S, 471-1231 — 80s & rock 'n' roll, ladies specials, atmosphere, the newest club on the block
BILLIARDS URBAN DANCE LOUNGE St 474-7322 — Fri & Sat house, R&B beats, DJ Venus & guests.

RATT 7th Floor SUB bldg, U of A Campus — Sat Athletes night w/ DJ Knegs
RED CHERRY RESTAURANT & BAR 414-0233 — Fri Urban Night w/ New Jersy Hip Hop Prince, T & T, DJ Pooche & Elvis Sat Blazing Sat w/ DJ Pooche & Elvis Open 7 days a week
RHYTHM & BREWS 4990-92 Ave. — Sat Classic Rock Night
ROSARIO'S PUB & KARAOKE CENTRAL 11715-108 Ave., 447-4727 — DJ Sociable Dave all week long.
RUM Phase II, WEM, 486-9494 — Thu Student night Fri R&B dance lessons Sat Reservoir Table Sun Industry night, dodgeball
RUNWAY NIGHTSPOT Leduc Inn. 986-4018 Wed — Sat DJ
SEUNA'S 15347 Stony Plain Rd., 481-6444 — Hip hop, reggae, soca, R&B Wed Giveaway Wednesday Fri Rupie's Sound Explosions Sat Dancehall Saturdays
SPORTSWORLD INLINE & ROLLER SKATING DISCO 13710-104 St., 472-6336 — Tue RETRO Nights hosted by Jam skater Fri w/ a mix of Retro & Disco hosted by Jam ShOrt D Sat Top 40 Disco hosted by Jam ShOrt D Sun 40 Request w/ a mix of Retro & Disco hosted by Confusion
STOLL'S 10368-82 Ave., 437-2293 — Sun House Arrest w/ Johnny Dangerous, Andy Inertia w/ guests
STONEHOUSE PUB 11026 Jasper Ave., 420-0448 — Fri & Sat DJ Clay
SUITE 69 8232-103 St, 439-6969 — Wed — Sat '70's & '80s dance music
THE FOX PUB 10125-109 St., 990-0680 — Fri & Sat DJ retro tunes for everyone Sun live local music
THE GUILTY MARTINI SOUTH 10338-81 Ave., 433-7183 — Thu Urban Substance Thursdays w/ Invinceable, J-Money, Shortround & Echo Sat Supreme Saturdays w/ Invinceable, Big Sun & DJ Game. Open Sunday long weekends, Live DJ every night.
THE NEW RUM Phase II WEM, 486-9494 — Thu Urban Substance Fri & Sat Top 40 Sun Industry Sundays
THE ONE ON WHYTE 10544-82 Ave., 437-7699 — Fri & Sat Retro, Top 40, r&b w/ DJ Crownroyal Sun Hospitality House Party
THE STANDARD 6107-104 St., 438-CLUB — Wed Standard Issue Wednesdays Thu Limited edition, various DJs & events Fri Harman B & DJ Kwake Info: www.the-standard.ca
URBAN LOUNGE 8111-105 St. — Tue Salsa & the City, dance lessons at 8 pm
WEISERS LOUNGE 957 Fir St., Sherwood Park, 464-3939 — Tue Latin Night Fri Classic rock Sat, 3 pm Live music jam Thu, Fri & Sat DJ Dino, large dance floor, Top 40.

COUNTRY

COOK COUNTY SALOON 8010-103 St., 432-COOK (2665) — Wed Kickin' Karaoke Thu Classic country Fri & Sat DJ Gary
COWBOYS COUNTRY SALOON 10180-180 St, 481-8739 — Country/Top 40, dress code in effect, $5 cover charge.
NEW WEST TAVERN 15025-111 Ave., 489-2511 — Country & honky tonk.
WILD WEST SALOON 12912-50 St., 476-3388 — Wed Free beginners dance lessons 8 - 9:30 pm Thu Free intermediate dance lessons 7:30 - 9:30 pm

CONCERTS

BENEFIT CONCERT — Dec 30, 7:30 pm, All Saints Anglican Cathedral (10035-103 St.) Winterreise-Winter Journey, a song cycle by Franz Schubert, feat. Gerald King & Carol Missio-King. Admission by donation.
CANDEL LIGHT CHRISTMAS — Dec 22, 23 & 26 - 28, 7:30 pm, matinee, Dec 26, 2 pm, John Walter Museum (10661-91A Ave.) Annual Christmas tradition w/ The McDodes. Tickets $20 adults, $11 children from 496-2925
NEW ROBBINS LIGHTER CLASSICS — Dec 22, Winspear Centre (9720-102 Ave.) Conductor Timothy Vernon feat The Richard Eaton Singers & Senator Tommy Banks Tickets from WIN
NEW YEAR'S EVE AT FESTIVAL PLACE Dec 31, Festival Place (100 Festival Way, Sherwood Park) w/ The Kit Kat Club Dinner, party favours & a complimentary bottle of champagne for each table at midnight Tickets $60 from FES

OPUS 26 — Dec 27 7 pm Muttart Hall Alberta College (10050 MacDonald Dr.) Hosted by the Alberta Ballet Foundation Tickets $20 from Ticketmaster
SAINT CRISPIN'S CHAMBER ENSEMBLE Dec 28 2 pm, Art Gallery of Alberta Churchill Square gallery admission
TUPELO HONEY Dec 31 Fri & Sat $

KARAOKE

ALBERTA'S Tue Production
B-STREET BAR 11818-111 Ave., 414-0545 — Wed Sun w/ Brad Scott
BANKERS PUB 16753-100 St — Fri 9 pm Sun 9 pm w/ Off-key
BAR B BAR & GRILL 4249-22 Ave Thu w/ Mr. Entertainment
Fri Sun w/ Mr. Entertainment
BILLY BUD'S Ave 438-1248 Sat Sun w/ Mr. Entertainment
BLIND PIG St 416-9332 — Wed & Thu
BLUE CHICAGO 14203 Stony Plain Rd 451-1402 Tue, 8 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment
BLUE QUILL 326 Saddleback Rd 434-3124 — Fri & Sat
BO-DIDDLY'S PUB & GRILL 23 Ave & 66 St Millwoods Centre — Thu, 9:30 pm w/ Mr Entertainment
BO-DIDDLY'S PUB & GRILL 4274-137 Ave., 476-1918 or 377-0219 — Thu w/ Mr. Entertainment
BORDERLINE PUB 3226-82 St., 462-1888 — Thu - Sat, 9:30 pm - 1:30 am
BOSTON PIZZA BEVERLY 3303-118 Ave. — Sat, 9 pm - 1 am w/ Mr. Entertainment
THE NEW RUM Phase II WEM, 486-9494 — Thu Urban Substance Fri & Sat Top 40 Sun Industry Sundays
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CHATEAU ON THE HILL Beaumont — Fri, 9 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment
CHIMMY'S 8318-144 Ave. 478 1770 — Thu & Fri 9 pm w/ Wild Kenny
CLAREVIEW PUB 104 550 Clareview Rd 414-1111 — Tue 10 pm - 2 am w/ Mr. Entertainment
CLIFF CLAYVIN'S 9710-105 St 424-1614 — Fri & Sat 10 am - 2 am
CROWN & ANCHOR 15277-113 St — Thu, 9 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment
Fri & Sat
DOC'S LOUNGE 5204 Stony Plain Rd 486-1101 Wed Fri & Sat 9:30 - 1:30 am
DOYLE'S PUB 2619-151 Ave 473-1961 — Fri & Sat 9:30 pm
DUSTER'S PUB 6402-118 Ave 474-5554 Wed pm 1 am & Sun
PUB Mon Sonny!
FIRST CITY Sun Fri Sat pm
FOX PUB 10125-109 St Tue Drink specials all night
FRANCO'S 14059 Victoria Tr 478-4636 — Thu Sat Debra Fae's karaoke Year
Shwd Park — Fri & Sat Sun w/ Mr. Entertainment
GAS PUMP 10166-114 St 488-4841 — Tue & Wed 9 pm - 2 am w/ Gord's Live Jukebox
H2O SPORTS BAR & LOUNGE 10044-82 Ave 433-5794 — Tue, Thu, Sat & Sun
HAWKEYE'S TOO 10044 102 St 101 2324 — Fri 8 pm - 12 am, w/ Deb Thulin - Hot Karaoke Prod
HILLVIEW PUB 311 Woodvale Rd W Millwoods 462-0468 — Fri, 9 pm - 1 am w/ Mr Entertainment
HORSHU LOUNGE 137 Ave & 58 St — Mon & Sat 10 pm w/ Mr Entertainment
INGLEWOOD PUB 12402-118 Ave., 451-1390 — Thu - Sat, 9:30 pm - 2 am w/ Mr Entertainment
JAMMERS PUB 11948-127 Ave. 451-8779 — Mon 7 pm - 11 pm, hosted by Peggy Sue
JD'S POLAR PUB 6825-83 St., 413-1883 — Thu & Fri, 9 pm
JUGS PUB 7450-82 Ave., 465-4046 — Sat, 9 pm
KELLY'S 11540 Jasper Ave., 451-8825 — Sun & Wed
KINGSKNIGHT PUB 9221-34 Ave., 433-2599 — Thu, Smirking Jay 9 pm
KNIGHTS PUB 11860-145 Ave —Tue, Thu Sat w/ Mr. Entertainment
KNIGHTS PUB SOUTH 1919-105 St Fri & Sat 10 pm - 2 am w/ Gord
KOSMOS 5011 50 Ave Leduc Wed S. Sat, 9 pm - 1 am w/ Mr
L B, S PUB 22 Akins Dr Tue, 9 pm - 1 am w/ Thu m w/ Mr
LAKEVIEW PUB 18-9104 179 Ave — Sat 9 pm w Off Key Entertainment
LE GLOBE 149 St & Stony Mon Thu & Sat
LEGENDS PUB #105 6104-172 St., 481-2786 Wed 9 pm
Fri Sat
MICHAEL'S 11730 Jasper Ave 482-4767 — Mon
Fri Sat
MuGGIN'T PUB 6655 178 St — Wed & Sat Tue
NEWCASTLE PUB 6108-90 Ave 490-1999 — Tue
Wed
ORLANDO'S I 15163 121 St 457 1195 — Wed & Thu 9 pm - 1 am w/ Off-Key Sun w/ Mr
ORLANDO'S II Tue & Wed
OVERLAND LOUNGE Fri 9 pm - 1 am w/ Off-Key
PARKLAND PUB Spruce Grove 960-6871 — Every Sat, 9 pm - 1 am, starting Sep 17. Karaoke contest 1st prize $600
PEPPERS 320 Westmount Centre, 113 Ave & 135 St. 451-8022 — Thu, 9:30 pm - 1:30 pm w/ Gord from Stone Rock Entertainment
PICARDS PUB 10725-104 Ave 428-4386 — Wed 8 pm, w/ Christy from Mr. Entertainment
— Tue - Sat, karaoke corral, 9 pm w/ Mr
Kingsway Ave., 479-3775 — Wed & Thu, Family karaoke 6 pm - Midnight
Ave., 447-4727 — 7 days a week, 9 pm

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ROSE BOWL PIZZA *10111-117 St., 482-5152 or 482-2589* — **Wed & Sat**
ROSIE'S BAR & GRILL *10315-124 St., 482-1600* — **7 days a week**, 9:30 pm
ROSIE'S BAR & GRILL *10475-80 Ave., 439-7211* — **Thu – Sat**, 9:30 pm – 1:30 am.
ROSIE'S BAR *63 Ave & 99 St* — **Thu – Sat**, 9 pm w/ Off-Key
ROSIE'S LOUNGE *10604-101 St., 423-3499* — **Mon**, 9 pm: Trivealia **Tue – Sat**, 9 pm. Karaoke.
SAK'S ON 51 ST *10525-51 Ave.* — **Fri & Sat**
SANDS HOTEL *12340 Fir Rd.* — **Fri**, 9 pm w/ Mr Entertainment
SCHOLARS *Quad 13 11113-87 Ave.* — **Sun & Tue**, 9:30 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment
SHERLOCK HOLMES *Bourbon Street, WEM* — **Sun**, 9 pm – 1 am w/ Mr Entertainment
SILVER BULLET *4703-97 St., 437-6203* — **Every Tue**, karaoke contest
SILVER MARTINI *10668-156 St., 484-9753* — **Thu & Sat**, 9 pm w/ Prasound Productions
SMITTY'S WESTMOUNT *Groat Rd. & 111 Ave.* — **Thu**, 9:30 pm - 1 am.
SMOK'N JOES ROADHOUSE *615 Hermitage Rd., 476-6122* — **Wed** w/ Rodon Kenny
SPIKES RESTAURANT & LOUNGE *99 St. & 32 Ave., 430-3663* — **Fri & Sat** w/ TLC entertainment
SPORTSMANS LOUNGE *145 8107-50 St.* — **Thu**, 9 pm – 1 am w/ Mr. Entertainment
SPORTSWORLD HUNTING & FISHING SEARCH RESCUE *13710-104 St 472-6336* — **Tue, Fri & Sat** 7 pm - 12 am Sat & Sun, 1 pm - 5 pm.
STRATHERN PUB *9514-87 St., 465-5478* — **Wed, Fri & Sat**
THE DRUID *11606 Jasper Ave.* — **Wed**, 9:30 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment
THE DRUID SOUTH *2945 Calgary Trail South.* — **Wed**, 9 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment
THE GRINDER *10957-124 St., 453-1709* — **Sun**, 9 pm w/ Eddie
THE NEST *NAIT Main Campus* — **Every Wed**, 4:30 pm - 8 pm
THYME TO DINE *15505-118 Ave.* — **Fri & Sat**, 9 pm – 1 am
TODAY'S PUB *5224-86 St.* — **Fri & Sat**, 9 pm – 1 am w/ Big Time Entertainment
WINSTON'S PUB *9016-132 Ave.* — **Wed, Fri & Sat**, 9 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment
WOODY'S *117258 Jasper Ave. (Upstairs), 488-6636* — **Sat – Mon** w/ Randy, **Tue & Wed** w/ Tizzy
YESTERDAY'S *Boudreau Rd, St. Albert, 459-0295* — **Tue**, 9 pm - 1 am w/ Off-Key Entertainment.

OPEN STAGE

THURSDAY

BACKDRAUGHT PUB *8307-99 St., 430-9200* — Open mic at 9 pm, everyone welcome.
BUD'S LOUNGE *St. Albert, 458-3826* — Open stage 8 pm - 11 pm.
DUSTER'S PUB *6402-118 Ave., 474-5554 or 479-0997* — Open stage 9 pm, hosted by Brian Peach
EASTBOUND EATERY *11248-104 Ave.* — Jazz session 8 pm, hosted by Blake Kinley
J & R BAR *4003-106 St., 436-4403* — Open Stage 8.30 pm, hosted by The Poster Boys
J.J.'S PUB *118 Ave. St. Albert Tr., 489-7462* — Open Stage hosted by Enrique
JAMMERS PUB *11948-127 Ave. 451-8779* — **Every Thu**, 7 pm - 11 pm. Professionally run, non-political jam.
JUGS PUB *7450-82 Ave., 465-4046* — Open mic night
METRO *10250-106 St 990-0704* — **Thu** Latin Music & Jam Night, hosted by various local Latin performers
NAKED CYBER CAFE & ESPRESSO BAR *10354 Jasper Ave., 425-9730* — Open stage 8 pm, bring your own instruments, poetry, etc
PLEASANTVIEW HALL *10860-57 Ave.* — Jam session 7 pm, hosted by the Wild Rose Old Tyme Fiddlers Association. Info: 433-2815
ST. THOMAS COFFEE HOUSE *44 St. Thomas St., St Albert, 458-8225* — First Thu of every month open stage and jam 7:30 - 10:30 pm, hosted by Jim & Penny.
THE BLIND DUCK *10416-118 Ave., 479-7193* — Open stage hosted by Loren Burnstick, 9:30 pm - [illegible]
THE GRINDER *10957-124 St., 453-1709* — Thursday Jam night.
THE NEST *11762-106 St.* — **Every Thu** Open Stage w/ Nick Zylo.

FRIDAY

ESPRESSO STATION *4707-49 Ave. (across from the 7/11), Stony Plain, 963-6635* — 7 - 10 pm, hosted by Shenita & Karla
GOBBLE GOBBLE *12831 Fort Rd.* — 8 pm – 1 am, hosted by Jay.
WOODCROFT HALL *13915-115 Ave.* — 7:30 pm, hosted by the Uptown Folk Club.

SATURDAY

BLIND PIG PUB *St. Albert* — 3:30 pm hosted by the Brothers of Soul.
BLUES ON WHYTE *10329-82 Ave., 439-5058* — Blues jam, 3 - 8:30 pm.
CHIMMY'S *8318-144 Ave. 478-1770* — Open stage jams 3 - 7 pm
JAMMERS PUB *11948-127 Ave. 451-8779* — Every Sat 3 pm - 7 pm.
JASPER PLACE HOTEL *15303 Stony Plain Rd., 489-1906* — Open Stage, 3 – 6 pm
NEW WEST TAVERN *111 Ave. & 151 St.* — Afternoon jam session at 3 pm.
ROSIE'S BAR AND GRILL *10315-124 St., 482-1600* — Open blues & country jam 5:30 - 9:30 pm

SUNDAY

BLIND PIG PUB *St. Albert, 418-6332* — Afternoon jam w/ Carmen
BLUE CHICAGO *142003-Stony Plain Rd., 451-1402* — Open stage, 8 pm, everyone welcome.
CARGO & JAMES TEA SHOPPE *10634-82 Ave.* — Open Stage, 7 – 10 pm, hosted by Rhea March.
JAMMERS PUB *11948-127 Ave. 451-8779* — Open blues jam, 3 pm - 8 pm.
JASPER PLACE HOTEL *15326-Stony Plain Rd., 480-6444* — Open Stage hosted by Bruce Fox, 3 – 7 pm
NEW ORLEANZ BLUES & JAZZ *15347 Stony Plain Rd, 484-2602* — Singer/Songwriter open stage, 7 - 9 pm
NEWCASTLE PUB & GRILL *6108-90 Ave, 490-1999* — Open Stage w/ Willie James & Crawdad, 3 pm - 6 pm
NIKKI DIAMONDS *8130 Gateway Blvd., 439-8006* — Open Jam w/ Mike.
O'BYRNES IRISH PUB *10616-82 Ave., 414-6766* — Open Stage hosted by Joe Bird, 9 pm.
OSCARS PUB *221 Chippewa Rd.* — **Sun** 8 pm, w/ Chris Wynters.
ROSEBOWL *10111-117 St., 482 2589* — Jam w/ Swampfoers 9:30 pm.
WUNDERBAR *8120-101 St., 436-2286* — Open stage country jambaree w/ Rob Jarvis.

MONDAY

BLIND PIG PUB *St. Albert, 418-6332* —
LB'S PUB *23 Akins Dr., St. Albert, 460-9100* — 9 pm – 2 am w/ guest hosts & house band.
SIDETRACK CAFE *10333-112 St., 421-1326* — **Every Mon** 8:30 pm, featuring Ben Spencer, NC.
THE DRUID SOUTH *2940 Calgary Trail, 465-6800* - Open Stage w/ Chris Wynters, 9 pm.

TUESDAY

BLIND PIG PUB *St. Albert, 418-6332* — Evening jam w/ Ammar
HONEST MUR'S *8937-82 Ave., 463-6397* — Open Stage w/ The Retro Rockets, 9 pm.
LEGENDS PUB *6104-172 St., 481-2786* — Open jam night.
SECOND CUP *Churchill Square* — 7:30 pm hosted by Ron Taylor.
THE DRUID *11606 Jasper Ave., 454-9928* — Chris Wynters hosts open stage at 9 pm.
YARDBIRD SUITE *10203-86 Ave., 432-0428* — Jam sessions 9 pm.

WEDNESDAY

ATLANTIC TRAP & GILL *7704-104 St., 432-4611* — Open mic 8 pm, hosted by Duff.
BUDS LOUNGE *Grandin Plaza, St. Albert, 458-3826* — Acoustic jam 8 pm.
METRO *10250-106 St., 990-0704* — **Wed** Open stage jam w/ Enrique & the World Beat Band.
PLEASANTVIEW HALL *10860-57 Ave.* — Bluegrass jam session 7:30 pm, hosted by the Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society. Info: 434-5997.
ROSSDALE COMMUNITY HALL *10135-96 Ave.* — Little Flower open stage 8 - 11 pm, hosted by Brian Gregg. Info: 429-3624 or www.ecn.ab.ca/~bgbg/flower.html
ROYAL CANADIAN BRANCH *10220-156 St.* — Open stage jam, 9 pm w/ The Dino Dominelli Hot Five
THE LOCKER ROOM *10209-100 Ave.* — Open Stage for comedians & musicians.
VICTORY LOUNGE *10030-102 St.* — Jam/open stage, guest hosts.

EXHIBITS

AGNES BUGERA GALLERY *12310 Jasper Ave.* — Info: 482-2854.
ART BEAT GALLERY *26 St. Anne St., St. Albert, 459-3679* — Hours: Tue, Wed & Fri, 10 am - 6 pm, Thu, 10 am - 8 pm, Sat, 10 am - 5 pm [illegible] www.artbeat.ab.ca
ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA *2 Sir Winston Churchill Square, 422-6223* — **Until Jan 8** *(National Philosophy, French Drawings from the [illegible] of the National Gallery of Canada.* **Until Jan 2006:** *Tir-Na-Nog (Forever Young)* by [illegible] Yardley-Jones. **Until Feb 26:** *Ituliagam* [illegible] Sculpture collection, *Inuit Art: A Mov[illegible] Experience, A Gift to Edmonton* - phot[illegible] Edward Burtynsky. Hours: Tues, Wed & [illegible] 10:30 am - 5 pm; Thu, 10:30 am - 8 [illegible] Sun, 11 am - 5 pm. Info: www.edmonta[illegible] gallery
ART MODE GALLERY *12220 Jasper Ave* [illegible] works by Jennifer Mack, Maya Eventov[illegible] Waugh, Denise Lefebvre, Pei Yang [illegible] & Emilija Pasagic. Closed **Dec 25**- **27** [illegible] - Sun.
ARTS & SCIENCE BY MARCE & MARC [illegible] dimensional paintings by Brenda Ma[illegible] appointment, *435-5938*
ARTS HABITAT *10217-106 St. 428-2787* — **Until Jan 1:** *365 Days Ago* - new work from [illegible] Cholifoux, Ken Christensen, Isabel Gor[illegible] Dinorah Garcia, Fish Griwkowsky, Th[illegible] Harasywin, Ted Kerr, Josh Klassen, D[illegible] Lipinski, Josh Lowen, Matt Prins, Gerry Rasmussen, Joel Rhein, Amanda Wo[illegible] Andrea Zariwny. Info: www.artshab[illegible]
BANYAN TREE GALLERY *10336-107 St., 425-27[illegible]* — Featuring contemporary South Asian artwo[illegible] furniture, jewelry and more. Info info@banyantreegallery.ca.
BEARCLAW GALLERY *10403-124 St* — [illegible] 1204.
BOHEMIA CYBER CAFÉ *11012 Jasper Ave* [illegible] www.bohemiacafe.ca/about.html
BRINSMEAD ZIOLA KENNEDY ARCHITECTURE *10434-122 St.* — **Until Jan 2:** *Roots* - paintings by Jodi Tychkowsky. Hours: Mon - Fri 8 am - [illegible] pm
CARGO & JAMES TEA HOUSE *105-50 St Thomas St., St. Albert* — Info: 458-3040
CENTRE D'ARTS VISUELS DE L'ALBERTA *9103-98 Ave., 461-3437* — **Until Dec 24** *Arrivals: Expressions* - oils by Lucie Filion, fabric [illegible] by Madeleine Bellmond, photos by Jacq[illegible] & sewing craft Francoise Fiset
CHACHKAS *8118-100 St., 432-9444* — Info chachkas@telusplanet[illegible]
CHRISTI BERGSTROM'S RED GALLERY *9421-82 Ave.* — **Until Feb 28:** *Alberta Landscapes* - [illegible]

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Human Touch. View the web site at www.redgallery.ca. Hours: Mon - Fri, 11 am - 5 pm. Sat by appointment. 439-8210.

COLLECTIV CONTEMPORARY ART *6507-112 Ave., 491-0002* — Hours: Wed-Fri 12 pm - 6 pm, Sat 10 am - 6 pm, Sun 12 pm, 4 pm. Info: www.collective.ca.

CRAFTMAN'S COVE *Westmount Shopping Centre, 454 2656* — Tole painting and Victorian music boxes by Bev Runolfson.

CRISTINA GALLERY *10727-124 St., 488-8720* — Until Dec. Feat. new artists to the gallery. Hours: Wed - Sat, 11 am - 5 pm.

DOUGLAS UDELL GALLERY *10332-124 St.* — **Dec 17 - 24:** *Christmas Show* - works by Uta Barth, Mary Pratt, William Wood & more. Info: 488-4445

EQUINOCTRUM GALLERY *12419 Stony Plain Rd., 482-2[illegible]* — **Until Dec 2005:** *Collection 2005*: works by artists on rotation monthly. Hours: Tue by appointment only, Wed - Fri, 10 am - 5:30 pm, Sat 10 am - 4 pm, closed long weekends.

EXTENSION CENTRE GALLERY *2nd Fl, 8303-112 St., 492-3034* — **Until Jan 4:** The works of Laura Evans Reid. Hours: 8:30 am - 8 pm, Mon - Fri. 9 am - noon, Sat. Info: 492-3034.

FINE ART GALLERY *1-1 Fine Arts Building, U of A Campus* — Hours: Tues - Fri, 10 am - 5 pm; Sat, 2 - 5 pm.

FRONT DOOR *10308-81 Ave., 432-7535* — Hours: Mon - Wed, 10 am - 6 pm; Thu & Fri, 10 am - 9 pm, Sat, 10 am - 6 pm; Sun, 12 - 5 pm.

FRAME OF MIND *6150-90 Ave.* — Hours: 10 - 6, closed Sun.

GARRINGE GALLERY *10516 Whyte Ave* — **Dec:** *Pagan Light* - photo paintings by Neil Fiertel. Info: www.paintspot.ca.

GERRY GALLERY *12312 Jasper Ave., 488-2952* — **Jan 6 - Feb 4:** *Betterstill* - by Kris Lindskoog. Opening reception **Jan 6**, 7 pm - 10 pm. Hours: Tues - Sat, 10 am - 5 pm

GALLERIA OF CRAFTERS & ARTISANS *1082 Capilano Mall* — Local art in various media. Feat. Sandee Smith-Armstrong. Open 7 days a week.

GLASS HAPPENINGS *17324-106A Ave.* — Info 484-8388

GREY NUNS HOSPITAL *3015-62 St.* — Hours: Mon - Fri, 8:30 am - 4 pm

HARCOURT HOUSE GALLERY *3rd floor, 10215-112 St., 426-4180* — **Jan 6 - Feb 4** *Mellifluous* - installation art by Helena Wadsley. **Jan 6 - Feb 4:** *Betterstill* - by Kris Lindskoog. Opening reception 7 pm - 10 pm. Info: harcourt@telusplanet.net or 426-4180

HUMAN ECOLOGY GALLERY *U of A, 89 Ave. & 116 St.* —

JOHNSON GALLERY(north) *11817-80 St., 479-8424* — Hours: Tue - Fri, 9:30 am - 5:30 pm, Sat, 9:30 am - 4 pm

JOHNSON GALLERY(south) *7711-85 St., 465-6171* — Hours: Mon - Fri, 9 am - 5 pm, Sat 10 am - 5 pm.

KAMENA GALLERY & FRAMES *5718-104 St. 944-9497* — Photography by Wei Wong, Chinese calligraphy on rice paper of many colours by Willie Wong, prints from *Celebrating Women* by by Larissa Sembaliuk Cheladyn, Northen light & floral watercolour by Willie Wong. Hours: Mon - Fri, 10 am - 6 pm, Thu 10 am - 8 pm, Sat 10 am - 5 pm.

LANDO GALLERY *11130-105 Ave., 990-1161* — Hours: Mon - Fri, 10 am - 5:30 pm & Sat, 10 am - 4:30 pm, Sun by appointment. Visit www.landogallery.com for info.

LATITUDE 53 *10248-106 St., 423-5353* —Info: www.latitude53.org.

LITTLE CHURCH GALLERY *455 King St. Spruce Grove* — Info: 962-0664.

MCMULLEN GALLERY *8440-112 St., 407-7152* — **Until Jan 29:** *Defining Spirit* - works by Allison Argy-Burgess, Roger Bailey, Sharon Moore-Foster & Teresa Hallow. Hours: Mon - Fri, 10 am - 8 pm; Sat & Sun, 1 - 8 pm. Admission: Free

MODERN EYES GALLERY & GIFT *Downtown (in the same building as Ric's Grill) St. Albert, 459-9102* – Carrying works by painters Graham Flatt, Ian Sheldon, Georgio Graham, Lorraine Oberg, sculptures by Roy Leadbeater, Delayne Corbett, and Fred Oberg, Maggie Walt Jewelry, Antique furniture, Kitras glass, Mogador. Open edition framed prints up to 40% off. Hours: Tues - Sat, 10 am - 5 pm

MUDDY WATERS CAFE *8211-111 St.* — **Until Jan 28:** *Soi Saboi* - by Rebecca Schroder. Info: 966 8612

MULTICULTURAL PUBLIC ART GALLERY *5411-51 St Stony Plain* — **Dec 8 - Jan 12:** *50 Years of Work* Michael Mott. Hours: Daily, 10 am - 4 pm, Sun 10 am - 6:30 pm. Info: 963-2777

MURUNGO GALLERY *10614-124 St.* — Info: www.murungogallery.com

MUSÉE HERITAGE MUSEUM *5 St. Anne St., St Albert, 459-1528* — **Until Feb 26:** *Scouting for Indians* - organized & circulated by the National Gallery of Canada. *Challenging the Stereotypes* Curated by the Michif Institute & Resource Centre. Hours: Mon - Sat, 10 am - 5 pm; & Sun, 1 - 5 pm. Admission: Suggested donation of $2

MUTTART CONSERVATORY *9626-96A St.* — Info 496-8787.

NAKED CYBER CAFÉ *10354 Jasper Ave.* — Info 425-9730

NINA HAGGERTY CENTRE *9704-111 Ave., 474-7611* — **Oct 20 - Dec 30:** *Offerings From the Third Dimension* - Experimental works in clay. Hours: Mon - Fri, 10 am - 2:30 pm, Tue, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm, Thu, 6 pm - 8 pm. Info www.ninahaggertyart.ca

ORTONA GALLERY *9722-102 St., 439-6943* —

THE BACK DRAUGHT PUB

Wishing all a safe holiday season, from the BackDraught staff. Please drink responsibly and don't drink & drive.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHT DRINK SPECIALS

$2 [illegible] $7.50 TRIPLE HI-BALLS $9.50 TRIPLE LOCKTAILS

HOLIDAY HOURS

Dec 24th CLOSED AT 5PM Dec 27th CLOSED AT 6PM
Dec 25th CLOSED Dec 31st CLOSED AT 6PM
Dec 26th OPEN 2PM-1AM Jan 1st CLOSED

8307 99TH STREET 430-9200

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local designers·custom t's + vintage
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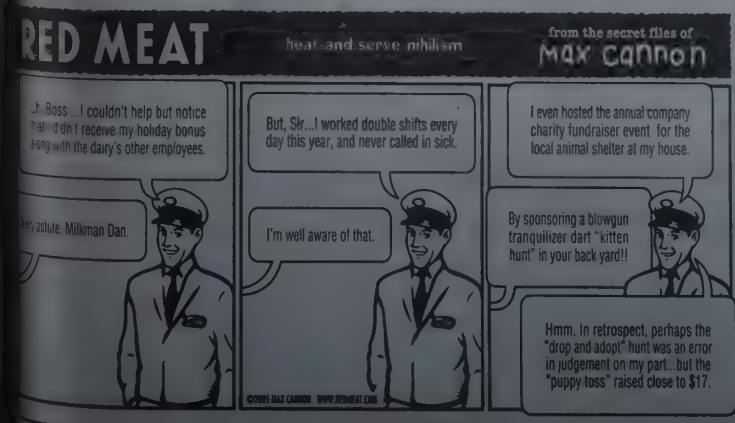

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Personal Connections™
44-TALKS 448-2557
Must be 18+ Long distance charges may apply

Hours: Sat & Sun, 12 - 5 pm

PICTURE THIS *959 Ordze Rd Sherwood Park on Wye Road* — Info: 467-3038

PROFILES PUBLIC ART GALLERY *19 Perron St., St Albert, 460-4310* — **Dec 1** - 31 *Presence* Artwork by St Albert Place Visual Arts Council members Hours: Tue - Sat, 10 am - 5 pm, Thu, 10 am - 8 pm

RED STRAP MARKET *10305-97 St., 497-2211* — Hours: Tue - Sun, 11 am - 5 pm.

ROWLES & COMPANY *10130-103 St., 426-4035* — Featuring over 100 Western Canadian artists in oil acrylic water-colour painting, bronze, blown glass metal, moose antler carving & soapstone Westin acrylics by Kathryn Sherman Scona Place water colours & acrylics by Frances Alyn-rancat Sun Life Place oils by George Schmidt & acrylics bu Bi Y Cheng Hours Weekdays 9 am 5 pm, Sat, Noon - 5 pm Info: www.rowles.ab.ca

RUTHERFORD SOUTH LIBRARY *U of A Campus* — Until **Dec 31** *Laying the Foundations The Legacy of Alexander Cameron Rutherford* - feat photographs, archival documents & inportant works from Alexander Rutherford's book collection Hours: Mon - Fri, 12 pm - 4:30 pm.

SADDLERY GALLERY *10137-104 St., 423-4484* — Dec *Emerging Imprints* - Group Exhibit. Hours: Tue - Sat, 10 am - 7 pm.

SCOTT GALLERY *10411 - 124 St.* — Until **Dec 23** - Christmas Show, various artists. Hours: Tue - Sat, 10 am - 5 pm. Info: www.scottgallery.com

SELKRIDGE POTTERY STUDIO *9844-88 Ave.* — Info www.selkridgeceramicart.ca

SERENDIPITY GALLERY *9860-90 Ave., 433-0388* — New oils by Rhonda Harder-Epp, watercolours by Friedrich Peter R.C.A., ceramic masks by Maurice Lwambwa-Ishang, collages by Sylvia Grist and new ceramics by Debra Demers-Bryan

SNAP GALLERY *Society of Northern Alberta Print Artists, 10309-97 St., 423-1492* — **Dec 1 - Dec 31**: *A Perfect Print Affair* - Original hand-pulled, fine arts prints by local, national & international artists. **Dec 3**, 10 am - 1 pm, fundraiser. Hours: Tues - Sat, Noon - 5 pm. Info snap@snapartists.com

STUDIO GALLERY *143 Grandin Park Plaza, St. Albert, 460-5990* - **Until Dec 31**. *Wet Paint* - Small works from the studio associates' individual choices. Hours: Tues - Fri, 10 am - 5 pm; Sat, 10 am - 4 pm By appointment 460-5990

TELUS CENTRE *U of A Campus* — Hours: Mon - Fri, 7:30 am 6 pm, Sat 1 - 4 pm

TELUS WORLD OF SCIENCE *(AKA Edmonton's Space & Science Centre) 11211-142 St., 451-3344* — Permanent Exhibits *The Body Fantastic, Mystery Avenue, The Greens' House, Space Place, Discoveryland & DinoDen* in the Explorer Gallery. Syncrude Science Stage Science Demos - Cryogenics, Electricity, *What Puts The Fuzz in Soda Pop?* Info. 451-3344, www.odyssium.com.

THE VAAA GALLERY *3rd Floor, 10215-112 St., 421-1721* — **Jan 5 - Feb 4**: Impressions - paintings by Bernie Hippel & photographs by Robert Michiel. Opening reception **Jan 5**, 7 pm - 9:30 pm. Info: vaartoa@telusplanet.net.

TRANSALTA BARNS *10330-84 Ave.* — Hours: 11 am - 8 pm.

TU GALLERY *10718-124 St.* — Info: 452-9662.

UPSTAIRS GALLERY *2nd Floor, 11631-105 Ave.* — Until **Dec 23**: An eclectic selection of smaller works perfect for Christmas, including works from Caroline & Frank Armington, Illingworth Kerr, Gordon Snyder & more Hours Tue - Sat, 11 am - 4 pm. Info: www.snyderfinearts.com.

URBAN ROOTS *10143-82 Ave.* — **Until Dec 31**: Oil on canvas & 3D digital by Paco Rosicvic, sculpture & masks by Ritchie Velthuis, oil on canvas & bronze castings, Tania Garner-Tomas. Info: 438-7978.

VANDERLELEIE GALLERY *10183-112 St., 452-0286* — Dec: *Metal Works* - by Isla Burns & Karin Cantine. Hours: Tues - Sat 10 am - 5:30 pm.

VISION IMAGES GALLERY *14224 Stony Plain Road.* — Info: 414-0866

WEST END GALLERY *12308 Jasper Ave.* — Info 488-4892.

WILDWOOD GALLERY *5410-50 St. Wildwood, 325-3904* — Features an eclectic collection of unique original works in metal, wood & clay. Hours: 11 am - 5 pm daily.

WORKS GALLERY *10155 Jasper Ave., Main Floor* — **Until Dec 24** *The Spirit of Generosity* works from Jeff Holmwood, Gregory Swan & more. Info: 426-2122 or www.theworks.ab.ca

YOGA LOFT *10309 Whyte Ave., Upstairs* — Info: 433-8588

ZIEGLER HUGHES GALLERY & SERENDIPITY FRAMING *9860-90 Ave., 433-0388* — Anahuacalli Mexican jewelry & art works by Canadian and Mexican artists and artisans. Hours: Tues & Wed, 10 am - 6 pm; Thu & Fri, 10 am - 8 pm; Sat, Noon - 8 pm; Sun & Mon, Noon - 5 pm.

ZOCALO *10826-95 St., 428-0754* — Hours: Mon-Wed, 9 am - 6 pm, Thu - Fri, 9 am - 9 pm, Sun, 12 - 5 pm

MUSEUMS

ALBERTA AVIATION MUSEUM *11410-Kingsway Ave., 451-1175* — Display of Edmonton's bush pilots in W.W. II double-wide, double-long hangar Hours: Daily, 10 am - 4 pm.

CITY OF EDMONTON ARCHIVES *10440-108 Ave., 496-8710* — More than 50,000 catalogued photographs and slides from the 1880s to the present. Two display galleries. Free admission. Hours: Weekdays, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

JOHN WALTER MUSEUM *496-8787* — Admission is free, donations gladly accepted. Info: www.edmonton.ca/johnwalter

LOYAL EDMONTON REGIMENT MILITARY MUSEUM *118, Prince of Wales Armouries Heritage Centre, 10440 108 Ave.* — Current exhibition: *The Battle of Ortona, Dec 1943* Displaying artifacts, photographs, documents, and texts on one of Canada's most important battles of World War II. Hours: Weekdays, 10 am - 4 pm

MUSÉE HERITAGE MUSEUM *5 St. Anne St., St Albert, 459-1528* — Hours: Mon - Sat, 10 am - 5 pm; & Sun, 1 - 5 pm. Admission: Suggested donation of $2. Info and registration: 459-1528.

REYNOLDS-ALBERTA MUSEUM *Wetaskiwin, 1-800-661-4726* — Info www.reynoldsalbertamuseum.com.

ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM *12845-102 Ave., 453-9100* — **Permanent Exhibitions** *Wild Alberta* - Explore Alberta's natural habitat - from mountain caves to live fish *The Syncrude Gallery of Aboriginal Culture* traces the extraordinary history of Alberta's Aboriginal peoples from the end of the Ice Age to the present day *The Natural History Gallery* - Explore some of the extraordinary changes the Alberta region has experienced, and see how these changes were written in the rocks. **Until Jan 9** *Kid Stuff: Great Toys from Our Childhood* - A traveling exhibition from the Berkshire Museum of Massachusetts Info 459-9100. Hours: Mon - Sun, 9 am - 5 pm. Ticket prices & Info: www.RoyalAlbertaMuseum.ca.

TELEPHONE MUSEUM *Prince of Wales Armouries Heritage Centre 10444-108 Ave., 433-1010* — Hours: Tue – Fri, 10 am – 3 pm. Admission by donation.

EVENTS

LATIN NEW YEARS EVE — **Dec 31**, 6 pm, *Delta Edmonton South (4404 Gateway Blvd.)* Dinner & dance feat. X-Band & Orquesta Energia. Tickets $75 from TDL

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY — **Dec 31**, 5 pm & 9:30 pm sittings, *4th & Vine, Wine Bar & Bistro (11358-104 Ave.)* 6 course dinner, 10 courses of wines & a live jazz band. Tickets $200 from 4th & Vine, 497-7858

SALSA NEW YEARS — **Dec 31**, 8 pm, *9737-118 Ave.* Dinner & dance, music provided by Salsaddiction. Tickets $25 from www.stownsalsa.com

TROCADERO ORCHESTRA — **Dec 31**, 6:30 pm, *Coast Terrace Inn (4440 Gateway Blvd.)* New Years Eve celebration with dinner & dance. Tickets $79 from TDL

MEETINGS

ADHD SUPPORT *Glenrose Hospital, 10230-111 Ave.* — **Every first & third Tue**, ADA/CH.A.D.D. hosts an adult support meeting for attention disorders. Info 406-5212.

ALBERTA ENTREPRENEURS ASSOCIATION *The Faculty Club 11435 Saskatchewan Dr.* — **Every Tue**, 5:30 pm - 9 pm. Pre-register at www.aea.ab.ca.

BUSINESS & BEYOND TOASTMASTERS CLUB *U of A, BUS B9* — **Every Mon**, 6:30 pm - 8 pm, enhance your transferable skills including communication, leadership & public speaking. 492-0910 or www.bbtc.ca.

CHRISTOPHER LEADERSHIP COURSE [illegible] organization that offers effective public speaking courses, Deal with nervousness, develop speaking skills, and explore leadership [illegible] Info: 468-[illegible]

CRANKPOTS *Crankpots ceramic studio* [illegible] *Ave.* — "Happy Hour" free painting [illegible] Mon - Thu, 10 am - 2 pm. Info: 414-[illegible]

CSS WORKSHOPS *Catholic Social Services* [illegible] Call 420-6081 for info & registration.

ENTHUSIASTIC SENIORS TOASTMASTERS *113 St.* — **First & Third Tue** of each month, 1:30pm. Become an effective and relaxed speaker. Info: 405-6408.

FAVA WORKSHOP *Ortona Armoury, 9722-11[illegible] 429-1671* — **Every Mon**, 7 - 10 pm. Mondays [illegible]

JONESIN' CROSSWORD by Matt Jones

Put some clothes on

There's good nake and bad naked

ACROSS
1 Switch position
4 Site for grain or missiles
8 Glenn Gould's instrument
13 Arafat's gp., once
14 Get in the groin, maybe
15 Canada touches three
17 Show whose original winner, Richard Hatch, strategized while naked
19 Wack-job
20 ___ even keel
21 Nametag word
22 Bouncy stick
25 Actor who presented at the 1973 Oscars while a streaker ran past on camera
29 Part of a horse's headgear
31 Tempe sch.
32 It's for those who can't handle the truth
33 Cookie with coconut
34 Make low
36 ACLU's concern: abbr.
37 Comedy group whose show sometimes opened with a naked guy playing the organ
40 Not post-
42 High marks
43 Send in your taxes, one way
46 Low-fat
48 Copacabana locale
49 Really old person, in mean slang
50 U.S. school plagued by Andrew Martinez, the "naked guy," in the 1990s
53 People pointed at
54 Simpson caught using blue dye #56
55 Cast a ballot
57 Pretty follower
59 Oscar-nominated movie where the main characters are chased down the street by an angry naked guy
63 Writing surfaces in one-room schoolhouses
64 Chemistry bit
65 Shade
66 Twists around
67 Sci-fi speed
68 Acoustic guitarist's lack

DOWN
1 Photo ___
2 Avian ___
3 In support of
4 It's slipped in a high-five
5 Take over
6 "Queen of Mean" Helmsley
7 Opposite of "neath"
8 Little lap dog, for short
9 Financier Carl
10 Virgil epic, with "The"
11 British manicurist's decoration
12 Watching events closely
16 Teahouse munchies
18 Hex-ceptional practice?
22 U.S. TV network with pledge drives
23 "...man ___ mouse?"
24 "Come on!"
26 Commute with coworkers, on a slightly larger scale
27 "So ___ to the guy..."
28 Heating conduit
30 Really thin
34 Steve Lawrence's wife Gorme
35 Brother to Sondra, Denise, Vanessa and Rudy
38 Ankara dweller, say
39 Words seen on menus after "bowl" or "cup"
40 Rounds out
41 They provide many unhappy returns
44 Come up with a cover story
45 Shady character?
47 Say it isn't so
49 Depressing Dostoyevsky
51 Fix some loose stitching
52 Juan's wife
56 Worker for a while
58 Double curve
59 Spotted
60 "I totally understand now!"
61 "That is gooooood!"
62 Labour Day's mo.

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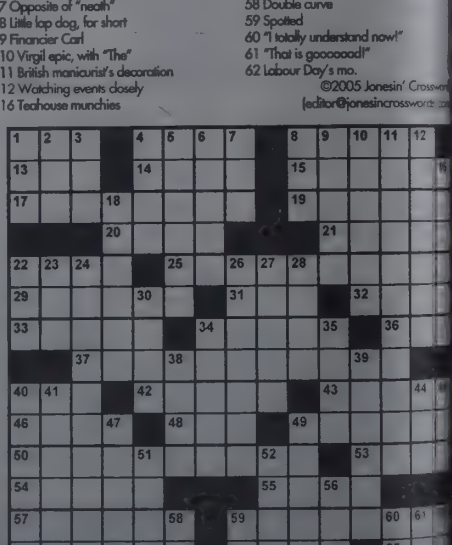

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

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F	R	E	N	C	H			W	H	O		K	I	D
C	A	C	A		Y	O	K	E	L		H	E	N	O
C	H	O	P	S		Y	O	L	A	T	E	N	G	O
		N	O	A	H	S	A	T	W	O	R	K		
B	O	O	K	T	I	T	L	E		V	E	I	L	S
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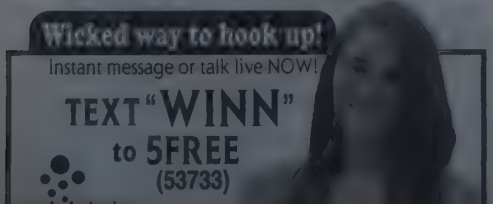
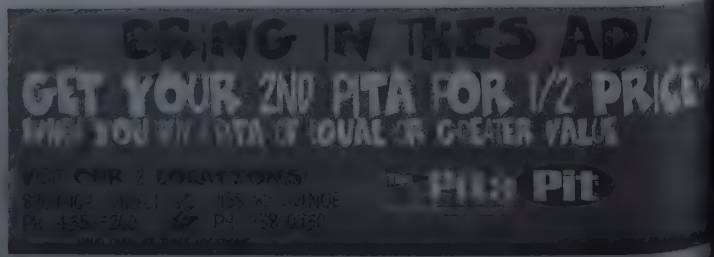
L	I	Z	A		I	R	E	N	E		O	N	E	L
A	S	E	T		C	A	T	E	R		U	N	D	O

* Free chat for Freedom Package members, M-F 3am - 5pm for up to 2 months! Restrictions apply 18+ No fidelity





...Club: screenwriters, directors & actors ...shop a scene for camera. Call 429-1671 or ...AVA.ca

...UNITIES UNLIMITED NETWORKING GROUP ...on Chamber of Commerce #600, ...20 St — Every Fri, 6:45 - 8:30 am ...new business relationships and hear ...speaker Terry Scherris. Admission: $2, ...welcome. Info 426-4620

...ON TOASTMASTERS CLUB Downtown — ...Thursdays 1 pm. Improve your listening, ..., & speaking skills. Info 431-2345 or ...452.

...WRITERS CIRCLE Fava Site — First Tue of ...month, 7:30 pm. Established & budding ...writers discuss craft & share works-in-... Info 429-1671 or visit FAVA.ca

...OUTSIDERS SUPPORT GROUP — Every Wed, 7 ...30 pm. A support group for families and ...ends of loved ones who are incarcerated or on ...role. Providing emotional support, info and a ...share. Info: 471-1122.

...AND BOUND TOASTMASTERS 10025-106 St. ...floor — Every Wed, 7 pm. Improve your ...speaking skills. Info: 477-2613

...AND TOASTMASTER CLUB "COMMUNICA-...ON AND LEADERSHIP" 10451-170 St, Rear ...Main Floor Boardroom — Every Tue, 7 ...Communication involves listening skills, ...appropriate feedback and public speak-...the friendly environment of personal ...and mutual support during two-hour ...meetings. Info: 495-5424.

...G ADULTS MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SUPPORT ...OUP Knox Metropolitan United Church, 8307-...St — Every third Thu of the month the ...ton Chapter of the MS Society is offering a ...port group for people in their 20s and 30s ...have MS and for their family & friends. Info: ...4

...H ANTI-RACISM PROJECT U of A Education ...ith 4-104 — Every Tue, 6 pm. A social justice ...that presents anti-racism workshops to var-... audiences. Free meeting.

...CTIVISM

...STY INTERNATIONAL Knox Metropolitan ...rch, 83 Ave Entrance, 8307-109 St. — All ...welcome. Info: 462-1871.

...OWIST READING CIRCLE DISCUSSION GROUP ...Building, lounge at bottom of stairway, ...campus, 114 St & 89 Ave. — Every Sun, ...Meet for critical discussion of assigned ...readings, the theory and practice of ...m and current international and local ...current readings available at: www.oxy-...com/~arc

...CIL OF CANADIANS — Every third Wed of ...month. An independent, public interest orga-...that works to promote economic justice, ...democracy and assert Canadian ...ty holds meetings. Info 429-4500.

...ONTON SMALL PRESS ASSOCIATION — Every ...Wed 7 pm. ESPA is an activist organization ...members from 28 countries. Always seeking ...conscious artists, administrators, and vol-...Info. 424-9236 or espa2002@shaw.ca

...ONMENTAL DIRECT ACTION NETWORK #7, ...20ave104 St. — Every Thu, 6:30 pm. ...environmental activist and public education ...social monthly meeting every third Thu, ...8 pm at Organic Roots (8225-122 St.) ...open free. Info 440-0542

...ELLENE SANAM FOUNDATION Faculté Saint-...Jean 8406-91 St Room 3-18 — Every third & ...fourth Sat of the month, 9 am - 5 pm. An organi-...for the emancipation and autonomy of ...Women through programs on economy, ...community radio and community health. Offers ...on HIV-AIDS prevention, treatment and ...training in French, English and other ...languages. Admission free for members, ...$10 Call 490-7332 to register.

...A CLUB OF CANADA - Prairie Chapter works ...always seeking, ecologically & socially ...individuals to build a strong grassroots ...in the Prairies. Info: ...club.ca/prairie

...RITY COALITION AGAINST WAR & RACISM ...Humanities Centre, Rm 1-7, U of A Campus — Every Thu, 4:30 - 6 pm. A public interest group working in education & organizing invites can cerned public to attend coalition meetings.

WOMEN IN BLACK Strathcona Farmer's Market, 83 Ave. & 103 St. — First & third Sat of every month, 10 - 11 am. An international women's peace & anti-racism group formed by Jewish & Arab women in 1988 opposes violence in all its forms. All women, men & children invited to attend a silent vigil. Info. 435-7051

WOMENS LEAGUE Organic Roots, 8225-112 St. — First Wed of every month, 7 pm. The Women's International League for Peace & Freedom. All women are welcome. Info: 447-9060

YOUTH ANTI RACISM PROJECT U of A, Education North 4-104 — Every Tue, 6 pm. Social justice group that presents anti-racism workshops to various audiences. Admission free. Info: 425-4644

HEALTH & WELLNESS

CLUB LULU lululemon, 10544 - 82 Ave — Fun & innovative weekly activities to get you moving. Info: www.lululemon.com, call 435-9363 or email whyte-community@lululemon.com to register

CSS WORKSHOPS Catholic Social Services offices — Info. 420-6081

GENTLE YOGA Radha Yoga Centre 9946-87 Ave — Weekly classes in small group settings & occasional workshops. Hatha, Yoga & Writing, Dance, Mind & Consciousness, Dreams, plus weekly Satsang. Enquire about schedule and fees Info: 432-3363 or www.yasodhara.org

HIV NETWORK OF EDMONTON SOCIETY 300-11456 Jasper Ave. 488-5742 — Hours. Mon, Wed & Thu, 9 am - 5 pm, Tue, 9 am - 7 pm & Fri, 9 am - 4 pm.

LIVING POSITIVE Suite 404-10408-124 St.— Every Tue. 7 pm - 9 pm. A confidential space where POZ people can discuss & share common issues of concern. A peer driven, AIDS service organization, providing direct support to people living w/ HIV in Alberta. Info: 488-5768.

MADELEINE SANAM FOUNDATION - Faculté Saint-Jean, 8406-91 St Room 3-18. Every third & fourth Sat of the month, 9 am - 5 pm. An organization for the emancipation and autonomy of African Women through programs on economy, community radio and community health. Offers training on HIV-AIDS prevention, treatment and harm reduction in French, English and other African languages. Admission free for members, membership: $10. Call 490-7332 to register.

OOH LE LA PILATES C'est Sera 12818-52 St. — Every Mon, 9 - 10 am & Thu, 6 - 7 pm: Free Pilates workshop. To register call 991-8634

ORGANIC ROOTS WORKSHOPS 8225-112 St. — Info: 413-1730

THE OUTSIDERS SUPPORT GROUP — Every Wed 7 - 8:30 pm. A support group for families and friends of loved ones who are incarcerated or on parole. Providing emotional support, info and a place to share. Info: 471-1122.

TRANQUILITY MEDITATION 10502-70 Ave — Every Wed, 7 pm. Meditation w/ Tibetan tradition female lama Ani Kunsang. Info: 633-6157.

WOMEN'S WISDOM CIRCLE Unity of Edmonton, corner of 132 St. & 106 Ave. — Every third Wed, 7 pm - 9 pm. Sharing and supporting through self/group chosen activities, such as meditation, stories, music, dancing, and laughter

YOUNG ADULTS MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SUPPORT GROUP Knox Metropolitan United Church, 8307 109 St — Every third Thu of the month the Edmonton Chapter of the MS Society is offering a support group for people in their 20s and 30s who have MS and for their family & friends. Info: 471-3034

KIDS

ADVENTURE SUNDAYS John Janzen Nature Centre, Fax Dr. & Whitemud Dr. — Every Sun, 11 am – 4 pm. join a naturalist and explore a new theme with your family. Each weekend features hands-on activities and projects for the whole family Admission $1.75 adults, $1.50 youth/seniors, $1.25 children Info 496-8787 or www.edmonton.ca/johnjanzen

ARMY CADET RECRUITMENT Progressive Academy 13212-106 Ave — Every Wed, 6:30 - 9 pm. Free sports, activities, camping, rifling, wall climbing and orienteering. For more information call Doug 483-7985 or Jason 473-4500

ART-VENTURES Profiles Public Art Gallery, 19 Perron St, St Albert, 460-4310 — Every third Sat, 1 - 4 pm Drop-in to the gallery and discover how much fun art can be Children, ages 5 - 12 Suggested donation per child is $2. Parents are required to stay with their children

CAPOEIRA KIDS CLASSES 10540 Jasper Ave., 709 3500 — Every Tue & Thu, 4:30 - 5:30 pm, Sat 1 – 2 pm Capoeira is a Brazilian mix of dance martial arts & percussion. Info: www.capoeiraedmonton.ca

KIDS KARATE Grandin School, 9884-110 St. — Every Tue & Fri, 6.30 - 8:30 pm. Classes for kids aged 10 & up Info: 975-6910 or 460-2931

YOUTH DROP-IN CENTRE Castle Downs YMCA 11510-153 Ave, 476-9622 — Every Fri, 7 – 10 pm. Basketball, air hockey, foosball, swimming & open gym. Call Trent, 476-9622 for Info

READINGS & LECTURES

BRENDAN MCLEOD Naked Cyber Cafe 10354 Jasper Ave. — Dec 22, 8 pm High energy story telling, hip hop & stand up comedy Pay what you can

REVEREND D. KAYE Turning Point 12840-109 Ave — Every Sun, 11 am Seminar

LEARNING

BEGINNER JIVE LESSONS — Every Tue, 8:30 pm, Blues on Whyte (10329-82 Ave) Admission $5

BEGINNER SALSA CLASSES — Every Thu, 8 pm - 9 pm, Fluid Lounge (Jasper & 109 St.) Info 906-7939

LEARN KARATE Grandin Elementary School 9884 110 St 975-6910 — Every Tue & Fri, 6:30 pm 8 pm Classes for kids over 10, teens & adults

MARTIAL ARTS St Brendan Elementary School, 5825 93a Ave., — Classes offered from small martial arts club Info. 440-0171 or www.jujitsuedmonton.com

SALSA & THE CITY — Tue, 8:30 pm, Urban Lounge (8111-105 St.) Cuban Salsa Lessons

SPANISH FLAMENCO DANCE LESSONS — Every Mon, 111 Ave. & 113 St. Beginner & Intermediate Lessons. Info: 478-0399

QUEER

AGAPE Education faculty, U of A Campus — Focus group on sex and gender differences in education & culture. Pre-service & practicing teachers, as well as community members welcome. Email andre.grace@ualberta.ca for Agape events schedule Info. 492-0772

CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER — Dec 25, Pride Centre (10010-109 St.) Hosted by Men Talking With Pride. Free. To register & for info: 488-3234.

INSIDE/OUT U of A Campus — A campus-based organization for LGBTQ faculty, graduates, academic & staff. Straight allies are also welcome. Monthly meetings. Contact lkwells@ualberta.ca or mwonham@ualberta.ca

OPEN DOOR CLUB — Every Tue, 5 pm, Grant MacEwan College - City Centre Campus (Rm 6-217) A social group for LGBTQ Students, Faculty & friends at Grant MacEwan College

PRIDE CENTRE 10010-109 St., 488-3234 — Free GLBTQ drop in counseling by chartered Psychologist and social workers. Call 488-3234 or visit www.pridecentreofedmonton.org.

THURSDAY

GAYWIRE CJSR 88.5 — 6 pm Edmonton's only radio show about gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered lives Featuring news, local and international features and community events.

ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB #45, 9912-106 St. — Second Thu of each month. A social/support group for cross-dressers, transsexuals & other transgendered individuals Info 964-8399 or illusionsx42@yahoo.com

MAKING WAVES SWIMMING CLUB — Recreational and competitive swimming with coaching Beginners encouraged to participate Practices every Tue & Thu Socializing after practice Info http://www.geocities.com/makingwaves_edm

SATURDAY

NORTHERN CHAPS Buddy's Night Club — Edmonton's original leather-latex fetish-uniform club meets the first and third Sat of every month Info main@northernchaps.com Website www.northernchaps.com

NORTHERN TITANS GLBT BOWLING LEAGUE Gateway Lanes & Recreation Centre #100 3414 Gateway Blvd N — 5 - 7 pm group supper each week after bowling (optional) Cost is $15 per person Info Peter 483-1075

YOUTH UNDERSTANDING YOUTH 10010-109St — Every Sat 7 9 pm Providing a warm and friendly place where lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, straight and questioning youth under the age of 25, can gather together to have fun and learn about themselves and others in a safe supportive and caring environment Info http://members.shaw.ca/yuy

SUNDAY

ALBERTA P-FLAG FAITH SOCIETY Christ Church 12116 102 Ave. — 2 pm Meets the last Sun of every month Family and friends from every back ground, faith and culture are welcome

ARCTIC FRONTRUNNERS — 11 am. A group of gay and lesbian runners meets Sun mornings and hits the river valley trails Runners of all speeds are welcome Our runs are typically 7 - 10 km long and take 40 - 60 minutes Info 436 7892

LAMBDA CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH Gorneau United Church, 11148 84 Ave — Lambda provides a safe and healing space for Edmonton's gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender heterosexual Christians & their friends All denominations, faiths welcome. Worship at 7 pm Sun Info 887-8611 or lambdachurch@shaw.ca

MEN TALKING WITH PRIDE 10010-109 St — A safe, supportive & confidential discussion group focusing on all gay related issues. For men at any stage of coming out Free meeting every Sun, 7 pm Call. 488-3234 or talkingwithpride@hotmail.com

SOUTHMINSTER-STEINHAUER UNITED CHURCH 10740 19 Ave. — 10 am. Welcomes people of all sexual orientations Info 987-4974

SPIRITUAL LIVING CENTRE — Celebrating and embracing the spiritual magnificence in all www.spirituallivingcentre.com, 989-3752

MONDAY

BADMINTON LEAGUE — The badminton season is now finished but will start up again in Sept The group still meets on a monthly basis for social/sports. Info: cwbyteddy@shaw.ca or 918 4295

TUESDAY

EDMONTON RAINBOW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION — Join us on the second Tues of every month for drinks, munchies & conversation For info call 422-6207

VERNON REYPOPULAM COMMUNITY CHURCH OF EDMONTON 10086 MacDonald Dr — 7-15 pm: A church for all people. Info. 429 2321

GROUP MOVIE NIGHT — Phone to find out what movie, when to meet and where Join us for coffee afterwards, too Cost: Free for 2 members plus theatre costs. Info. 454-0313

MAKING WAVES SWIMMING CLUB — Recreational and competitive swimming with coaching Beginners encouraged to participate Practices every Tue & Thu. Socialization after practices Info http://www.geocities.com/makingwaves_edm

OUTREACH Heritage Room, Athabasca Hall, U of A Campus — 5 pm: U of A based group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and straight but friendly students, staff and faculty (Open to the community, not just U of A) Info www.outreach.pixelalmighty.com or outreach@ualberta.ca

PFLAG/T #45 9912 106 St — 7 30 pm Support meeting every third Tues of the month for parents, families and friends, of lesbians and gays and transgendered people Info: 462-5958 or 1-877-882-2011 ext 2043

TRANSSEXUAL/TRANSGENDER SUPPORT GROUP Gorneau United Church meeting room, 11148 84 Ave. — 7:30 - 9:30 pm: Last Tue of every month: True Spirit North, an education & support group for trans-identified & questioning people Info: 405-4134 or email truespiritnorth@shaw.ca

WEDNESDAY

BI-SEXUAL WOMEN'S COFFEE GROUP — Second Wed each month 7:30pm A social group for bi-curious and bi-sexual women More info: bwcoffeegroup@yahoo.ca.

BISEXUAL PRIDE Pride Centre — 7 pm: A social and support group that meets on the last Wed of every month. Friendly and accepting. Info: 488-3234.

GMOC — Gay Men's Outreach Crew. Every Wed, 7 10 pm Coming-out workshops self-acceptance, health call 488-0564 or gmoc@interbaun.com for info

YOURS, MINE, OURS AND US (YMOU) — A support group for LGBT parents, partners and their friends Meets first and third Wed of the month Info 426 6311 or 415-5434

BATHHOUSES

DOWN UNDER 12224 Jasper Ave 482-7960, www.gayedmonton.com

STEAMERS 9668 Jasper Ave., 422-2581

STEAMWORKS 11745 Jasper Ave. — Open 24/7 Info 451-5554

THEATRE

A CHRISTMAS CAROL Citadel Theatre, Maclab Theatre 9828-101A Ave — Dec 2 - 23 The Citadel's Christmas tradition continues with this retelling of Dickens' classic Ticket from CT

CHRISTMAS CAROL PROJECT Roxy Theatre, 10708-

...what you need to do: Call ...anne, 430-9043, between 1 ...5 p.m. on Thursday, indi-...tch of the prizes listed ...ou'll be vying for and ...r FREE STUFF operator ...correct answer. If you reach ...swering machine hang up and try again. You may not win FREE ...by leaving messages on our voice mail or sending faxes to the SEE ...if you have won in the last 30 days.

...STUFF

...double guest pass to *Capote* at the Garneau Theatre.

...esting question: Which character in the novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, ...on Truman Capote?

...double guest pass to see *Good Night & Good Luck*, *Water* or *The* ...at the Princess Theatre.

...esting question: Who was the director of the 1968 version of *The* ...?

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listings PHONE: 430-9003 FAX: 432-1102 EMAIL: info@see.greatwest.ca

124 St. — **Dec 16 · 18 & 21 · 23,** 8 pm. Bill Bourne headlines a stellar line up of music, dance & visual artists that capture the spirit, sauciness & delights of the Vaudeville period. Feat. Tippy Agogo, Mele Zero Dance, Lunaville & Friends, Los Tres Amigos & Tim Follmann. Tickets $30 from www.altherapy.com or 453-2440

10708-124 St. — **Dec 31,** 8 pm. Bill Bourne headlines a stellar line up of music, dance & visual artists that capture the spirit, sauciness & delights of the Vaudeville period. Feat. Tippy Agogo, Mele Zero Dance, Lunaville & Friends, Los Tres Amigos & Tim Follmann. Tickets $30 from www.altherapy.com or 453-2440

DANCE

DANCE OF UNIVERSAL PEACE — 2nd & 4th Mon of each month, 7:30 pm. *Riverdale Hall, 9231-100 Ave.* Info Call: 467-1285

RODA DE CAPOEIRA '— Every Sat, 3 - 4 pm, *Capoeira Academy, 10540 Jasper Ave., 709-3500* A free performance of a Brazilian mix of dance, martial arts & music, invented by African slaves. Info: www.capoeiraedmonton.ca

ALT CINEMA

EDMONTON FILM SOCIETY *Provincial Museum Auditorium, 102 Ave. & 128 St* — Admission $5 general, $4 students/seniors, $2 kids 12 & under. Info: 439-5285 or *thomas.r@shaw.ca*

METRO CINEMA *Zeidler Hall, Citadel Theatre, 9828-101A Ave., 425-9212* — Closed for the holidays, will reopen Jan 6.

TELUS WORLD OF SCIENCE *(AKA Edmonton's Space & Science Centre) 11211-142 St., 451-3344* — Imax Theatre: *Bugs!* A live-action, rainforest adventure that explores the dramatic & savage lives of a prying mantis & a beautiful butterfly known by their Latin names, Hierodula & Papilio. *Mystery of the Nile* Relates the story of the first expedition to navigate the entire Blue Nile, from its source in the heart of Africa to the Egyptian coast of the Mediterranean Sea. *Forces of Nature* Takes you as close as you dare to some of earth's most violent natural disasters, from earthquakes to volcanoes & tornadoes. *Coral Reef, Amazon, Storm Chasers, Space Station, Beavers & Magic of Flight: Margaret Zeidler Star Theatre: Climate Change, Alberta Skies II, Laser Colours of the World, In My Backyard, Star Wonders, Sky Tonight.* Info & showtimes: 451-3344, www.odyssium.com

LIVE COMEDY

DUKE OF ARGYL *7230 Argyll Rd., 465-7931* — Every Sun Yuk Yuk's On Tour hosted by Paul Swann

FOR THE FOOLHARDY *Rapid Fire Theatre, 10920-88 Ave.* — Join Rapid Fire Theatre's improvisers in an entertaining and educational workshop. Classes offered weekly, sessions. Beginner classes on Wed, advanced classes on Tue 7 - 9:30 + GST Info. 448-0695 or www.rapidfiretheatre.com

LEGENDS PUB *#105, 6101-172 St.* — Every Mon, Yuk Yuk's comedy in...

THE COMEDY FACTORY *408-3414 ...* Thu - Sat CLOSED

THE COMIC STRIP *Bourbon Street, W...* — Thu & Fri Daryl Malik Tue Ger... Wed Skit for Brains. Nightly at 8... & 10:30 pm, Sat 8 pm & 10:30... Silly Sundays 12 pm - 1:45 pm.

YUK YUKS *66 St. & 137 Ave. Londo...* Thu & Fri Andrew Grose. Tue... Sat, 10:30 pm.

SILVERCITY

FAMOUS PLAYERS IMAX THEATRE

West Edmonton Mall

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SHOWTIMES DEC. 23-29, 2005

GARNEAU
8712 109 STREET • 433-0728

CAPOTE — R
Nightly 7:00 & 9:20. Monday matinee 2:00. Closed Dec. 24 & 25

PRINCESS

WALTER — PG
Nightly 7:00 & 9:30. Monday matinee 2:00

GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK — PG
Nightly 7:00 & 9:05. Monday matinee 3:30

THE PRINCESS BRIDE — PG
Nightly 7:00 & 3:30. Monday matinee 2:00. CLOSED DEC. 24 & 25

MAGIC LANTERN CINEMA

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE — PG
Nightly 7:00 & 9:30. matinees Dec. 27, 29, 31 & Jan 1 at 12:30 & 3:15. May frighten young children. Closed Dec. 24 & 25

METRO CINEMA

CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS. REOPENS JAN. 6/06

GRANDIN THEATERS

HARRY POTTER — PG
Nightly 7:00 & 9:20. Matinees Dec. 27, 29, 31 & Jan 1 at 12:30 & 3:15. Mature theme, not recommended for young children

CHICKEN LITTLE — G
Sun-Thurs 1:30 & 7:00

THE FAMILY STONE — PG
Nightly 7:00 & 9:45. Sun-Thurs 1:15, 3:15, 5:30, 7:35 & 9:35

FUN WITH DICK AND JANE — PG
Nightly 7:00 & 9:15. Sun-Thurs 1:30, 3:30, 5:50, 8:15, 10:45

KING KONG — PG
Nightly 7:00 & 9:00. Sun-Thurs 1:00, 3:45, 7:15 & 8:45

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA — PG
Nightly 7:00 & 9:30. Sun-Thurs 1:00, 3:30, 6:45 & 9:15

RUMOR HAS IT — PG
Nightly 7:00 & 9:15. Sun-Thurs 1:30, 3:45, 7:00 & 9:20

LEDUC CINEMAS

KING KONG — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 7:00, 9:15. Sat 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:20. Sun 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:15

FUN WITH DICK AND JANE — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 7:00, 9:15. Sat 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:20. Sun 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:15

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 7:00, 9:15. Sat 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:20. Sun 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:15. Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children

JUST FRIENDS — 14A
Fri, Mon-Thurs 7:00, 9:15. Sat 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:20. Sun 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:15. Mature theme, not recommended for young children

CHICKEN LITTLE — G
Fri, Mon-Thurs 7:00, 9:15. Sat 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:20. Sun 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:15

CINEPLEX ODEON CINEMAS WEST EDMONTON MALL

NORTH COUNTRY — 14A
Fri, Mon-Thurs 10:20, 4:35, 9:10. Sat 1:30, 4:00, 6:35, 9:10. Sun 1:30, 4:00, 6:35, 9:10. Mature theme, not recommended for young children

PRIME — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40. Sat 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40. Sun 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40. Sex scenes, nudity, coarse language

DREAMER: INSPIRED BY A TRUE STORY — G
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00. Sat 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00. Sun 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00. Coarse language, sexual content

ZATHURA — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00. Sat 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00. Sun 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00. Mild peril, coarse language

THE LEGEND OF ZORRO — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50. Sat 12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50. Sun 12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50. Sexual innuendo, coarse language

WALLACE & GROMIT: THE CURSE OF THE WERE-RABBIT — G
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:00, 2:10, 4:20, 6:30, 8:40, 10:50. Sat 12:00, 2:10, 4:20, 6:30, 8:40, 10:50. Sun 12:00, 2:10, 4:20, 6:30, 8:40, 10:50. Brief violence, disturbing content

ELIZABETHTOWN — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:40, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40. Sat 12:40, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40. Sun 12:40, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40. Coarse language, sexual content

FLIGHTPLAN — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40. Sat 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40. Sun 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40. Mature theme, not recommended for young children

WEDDING CRASHERS — 14A
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20. Sat 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20. Sun 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20. Coarse language, sexual content

SOUTH EDMONTON COMMON

MEMOIRS OF GEISHA — PG
Fri 12:25, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15. Sat 12:25, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15. Sun 12:25, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15. Mature theme, not recommended for young children

THE RINGER — PG
Mon-Thurs 1:15, 3:15, 5:20, 7:30, 9:35. Fri 1:15, 3:15, 5:20, 7:30, 9:35. Sat 10:45, 1:15, 3:15, 5:20, 7:30, 9:35. Sun 10:45, 1:15, 3:15, 5:20, 7:30, 9:35. Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children

RUMOR HAS IT — 14A
Fri, Mon-Thurs 1:45, 3:10, 4:45, 10:15. Sat 11:45, 3:10, 4:45, 6:45, 8:50, 10:15. Sun 11:45, 3:10, 4:45, 6:45, 8:50, 10:15. Coarse language, sexual content

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY — G
Fri, Mon-Thurs 11:50, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20. Sat 11:50, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20. Sun 11:50, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20. No passes

FUN WITH DICK AND JANE — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:50, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00. Sat 12:50, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00. Sun 12:50, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00. Not recommended for young children

KING KONG — PG
Fri 12:45, 1:45, 2:45, 3:45, 4:45, 5:45, 6:45, 7:45, 8:45, 9:45. Sat 12:45, 1:45, 2:45, 3:45, 4:45, 5:45, 6:45, 7:45, 8:45, 9:45. Sun 12:45, 1:45, 2:45, 3:45, 4:45, 5:45, 6:45, 7:45, 8:45, 9:45. Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children. No passes

CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE — PG
Fri 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:15, 4:15, 5:15, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:45. Sat 10:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:15, 4:15, 5:15, 6:30, 7:30, 9:00, 9:45. Sun 10:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:15, 4:15, 5:15, 6:30, 7:30, 9:00, 9:45. Mon-Thurs 12:00, 1:00, 3:15, 4:15, 6:30, 7:30, 9:45. Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children

VERONICA — 14A
Fri 1:10, 4:20, 7:20, 10:30. Sat 1:10, 4:20, 7:20. Violence

HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE — PG
Fri 10:00, 11:50, 3:00, 6:20, 9:40. Sat 10:00, 11:50, 3:00, 6:20, 9:40. Sun 10:00, 11:50, 3:00, 6:20, 9:40. Mature theme, not recommended for young children

NORTH EDMONTON CINEMAS
14231 137th Avenue • 732-2773

THE RINGER — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 1:10, 3:15, 5:30, 7:50, 10:25. Sat 10:45, 1:10, 3:15, 5:30, 7:50, 10:25. Sun 10:45, 1:10, 3:15, 5:30, 7:50, 10:25. Crude content

MEMOIRS OF GEISHA — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:00, 4:00, 7:15, 10:20. Sat 12:00, 4:00, 7:15, 10:20. Sun 12:00, 4:00, 7:15, 10:20. Mature theme, not recommended for young children

RUMOR HAS IT — 14A
Fri, Mon-Thurs 11:50, 3:20, 6:50, 10:30. Sat 11:50, 3:20, 6:50, 10:30. Sun 11:50, 3:20, 6:50, 10:30. Coarse language, sexual content

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY — G
Fri, Mon-Thurs 1:00, 3:20, 5:20, 7:45, 10:05. Sat 1:00, 3:20, 5:20, 7:45, 10:05. Sun 1:00, 3:20, 5:20, 7:45, 10:05. No passes

THE WEDDING CRASHERS — 14A
Fri, Mon-Thurs 1:50, 4:30, 7:45, 10:10. Sat 1:50, 4:30, 7:45, 10:10. Sun 1:50, 4:30, 7:45, 10:10. Coarse language, sexual content

THE FAMILY STONE — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50. Sat 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50. Sun 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50. No passes

KING KONG — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:00, 3:35, 7:00, 10:15. Sat 12:00, 3:35, 7:00, 10:15. Sun 12:00, 3:35, 7:00, 10:15. Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children

CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:45. Sat 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:45. Sun 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:45. Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children

STARTING — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:15, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50. Sat 12:15, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50. Sun 12:15, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50. Mature theme, not recommended for young children

GATEWAY 8

ARMORED — 18A
Fri 7:00, 9:40. Sat 1:00, 7:45. Sun 6:30. Mon-Thurs 12:40, 3:30, 6:20, 9:10. Violence, coarse language

DOMINO — 18A
Fri 1:50, 3:00, 6:40, 9:40. Sat 11:50, 3:00, 6:40. Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children

JUST FRIENDS — 14A
Fri 1:10, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50. Sat 1:10, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50. Sun 1:20, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50. Mon-Thurs 1:20, 4:10, 7:15, 9:50

ARON FLIX — 14A
Fri 1:15, 3:15, 5:20, 7:30, 9:35. Sat 10:45, 1:15, 3:15, 5:20, 7:30, 9:35. Sun 10:45, 1:15, 3:15, 5:20, 7:30, 9:35. Mature theme, not recommended for young children

DERAILED — 14A
Fri 1:30, 4:30, 7:40, 10:10. Sat 1:30, 4:30, 7:40, 10:10. Sun 1:30, 4:30, 7:40, 10:10. Violence, coarse language throughout

RENT — PG
Fri 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45. Sat 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45. Sun 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45. Mature theme, not recommended for young children

FRIDA AND BERNARDINA — G
Fri 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00. Sat 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00. Sun 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00. Mature theme, not recommended for young children

KISS KISS, BANG BANG — 14A
Fri 7:10, 9:45. Sat 1:10, 4:00. Sun 4:00, 7:10, 9:45. Mon-Thurs 1:10, 4:00, 7:10, 9:45. Violence, coarse language throughout

DOSTI — STC
Fri, Mon-Thurs 8:45. Sun 8:45, 1:30

STRIANA — 14A
Sun 3:45, 7:00, 9:40. Mon-Thurs 1:00, 3:45, 7:00, 9:40. Violence

WESTMOUNT CENTRE
111 AVENUE & 170 ROAD • 455-8726

CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 10:00. Sat 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 10:00. Sun 6:45, 10:00. Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children

CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 — G
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:00, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30. Sat 12:00, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30. Sun 12:00, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30. No passes

KING KONG — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:15, 4:00, 8:00. Sat 12:15, 4:00, 8:00. Sun 4:00, 8:00. Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children

THE RINGER — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 7:00, 9:45. Sat 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 7:00, 9:45. Sun 2:30, 4:30, 7:00, 9:45. Crude content

FAMOUS PLAYERS
BIG SCREENS • BIG SOUND • BIG DIFFERENCE

SILVERCITY
WEST EDMONTON MALL

KING KONG — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:00, 2:30, 4:00, 6:45, 8:00. Sat 12:00, 2:30, 4:00, 6:45, 8:00. Sun 12:00, 2:30, 4:00, 6:45, 8:00. Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children. No passes

CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 11:45, 12:30, 3:00, 3:45, 6:30, 7:15, 9:40, 10:30. Sat 11:45, 12:30, 3:00, 3:45, 6:30, 7:15, 9:40, 10:30. Sun 11:45, 12:30, 3:00, 3:45, 6:30, 7:15, 9:40, 10:30. May frighten young children

HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:15, 3:30, 7:00, 10:15. Sat 12:15, 3:30, 7:00, 10:15. Sun 3:30, 7:00, 10:15. Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children

THE FAMILY STONE — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50. Sat 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50. Sun 4:10, 7:10, 9:50. No passes

HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE — PG
Fri 1:15, 4:45, 8:15. Sat 1:15, 4:45, 8:15. Sun 4:45, 8:15. Mon-Thurs 12:45, 4:05. Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children

SARIANA — 14A
Fri, Mon-Thurs 1:40, 3:50. Sat 1:40, 3:50. Sun 3:50. Mon-Thurs 7:45, 10:25. Violence

CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 — G
Fri, Mon-Thurs 11:50, 2:15, 4:50, 7:20, 9:45. Sat 11:50, 2:15, 4:50, 7:20, 9:45. Sun 11:50, 2:15, 4:50, 7:20, 9:45. No passes

JUST FRIENDS — 14A
Fri 1:45, 4:20, 7:40, 10:20. Sat 1:45, 4:20, 7:40, 10:20. Sun 1:45, 4:20, 7:40, 10:20. Mature theme, not recommended for young children

KEEPER — 14A
Fri-Sat, Mon-Thurs 1:30, 3:55, 7:45, 10:25. Sun 1:30, 10:25. Violence

WALK THE LINE — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:10, 3:20, 6:50, 10:05. Sat 12:10, 3:20, 6:50, 10:05. Sun 12:10, 3:20, 6:50, 10:05. Mature theme, not recommended for young children

FUN WITH DICK AND JANE — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 1:50, 4:30, 7:45, 10:10. Sat 1:50, 4:30, 7:45, 10:10. Sun 1:50, 4:30, 7:45, 10:10. Coarse language, sexual content

RUMOR HAS IT — PG
Sun 4:15, 7:30, 10:00. Mon-Thurs 1:30, 4:15, 7:30, 10:00. Not recommended for young children, mature theme

DOMINO — 18A
Sun 4:20, 7:40, 10:20. Mon-Thurs 1:45, 4:20, 7:40, 10:20. Violence, coarse language

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YOUNG MAN AND GUN — G
Fri, Mon-Thurs 1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 7:55, 10:25. Late nite Fri/Sat 11:25. Coarse language, disturbing content

THE LEGEND OF ZORRO — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 1:05, 3:35, 6:05, 8:45, 10:45. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:15. Sexual innuendo

FIREWALL — G
Sat/Sun 11:25, daily 1:50, 4:35, 7:00, 9:20. Late nite Fri/Sat 11:40

ZATHURA — PG
Sat/Sun 11:15, daily 1:45, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30. Late nite Fri/Sat 11:45. Mild peril, coarse language

DOMINO — 18A
Sat/Sun 11:45, daily 2:10, 5:00, 7:00, 10:05. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:05. Frightening scenes throughout, disturbing content

ELIZABETHTOWN — PG
Sat/Sun 11:35, daily 2:05, 2:40, Coarse language, mature theme

WALLACE & GROMIT: THE CURSE OF THE WERE RABBIT — G
Sat/Sun 11:20, daily 1:40, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15. Late nite Fri/Sat 11:20. Brief violence, disturbing content

POLAR EXPRESS — G
Sat/Sun 11:00, daily 1:40, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15. Late nite Fri/Sat 11:20. Sexual content

A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE — 14A
Daily 8:30-10:00. Late nite Fri/Sat 11:50. Graphic scenes, sexual content

THE WEDDING CRASHERS — 14A
Sat/Sun 10:55, daily 1:25, 6:55. Mature themes, not recommended for young children

THE FOG — 14A
Daily 4:45, 10:10. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:30. Frightening scenes

PRIME — PG
Sat/Sun 11:30, daily 1:30, 7:25, 10:15. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:30. Not recommended for young children

THE TUNNEL — 14A
Daily 9:55. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:15. Coarse language, violence

AN HOUSE FOR THE MARKET — G
Sat/Sun 11:30, daily 1:55, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:15. Coarse language, sexual content

WEDDING CRASHERS — 14A
Sat/Sun 11:10, daily 1:45, 4:15, 7:20, 9:50. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:05. Sexual content

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YOURS MINE AND OURS — G
Sat/Sun 11:30, daily 1:50, 4:00, 7:20, 9:20. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:30. Gory scenes throughout, disturbing content

THE RINGER — PG
Sat/Sun 11:00, daily 1:00, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:15. Violence

DREAMERS — G
Sat/Sun 11:30, daily 2:10, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:15. Coarse language, mature themes

ZATHURA — PG
Sat/Sun 11:25, daily 1:30, 7:10, 9:35. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:15. Mild peril, coarse language

ELIZABETHTOWN — PG
Sat/Sun 11:15, daily 1:35, 4:00, 7:05, 9:25. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:15. Coarse language, mature themes

WALLACE & GROMIT: THE CURSE OF THE WERE-RABBIT — G
Sat/Sun 11:20, daily 1:40, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:15. Brief violence, disturbing content

POLAR EXPRESS — G
Sat/Sun 11:00, daily 1:40, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:15. Sexual content

A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE — 14A
Sat/Sun 11:50, daily 2:05, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:30. Graphic scenes, sexual content

THE FOG — 14A
Daily 4:45, 10:10. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:30. Frightening scenes

PRIME — PG
Sat/Sun 11:30, daily 1:30, 7:25, 10:15. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:30. Not recommended for young children

THE TUNNEL — 14A
Daily 9:55. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:15. Coarse language, violence

AN HOUSE FOR THE MARKET — G
Sat/Sun 11:30, daily 1:55, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:15. Coarse language, sexual content

WEDDING CRASHERS — 14A
Sat/Sun 11:10, daily 1:45, 4:15, 7:20, 9:50. Late nite Fri/Sat 12:05. Sexual content

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THE RINGER — PG
Mon-Thurs 11:30, 2:05, 4:20, 7:00, 9:25. Sat 11:30, 2:05, 4:20, 7:00, 9:25. Crude content

CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 — G
Fri, Mon-Thurs 11:40, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40. Sat 11:50, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40. No passes

FUN WITH DICK AND JANE — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50. Sat 12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50. Not recommended for young children

KING KONG — PG
Fri 11:45, 12:15, 12:45, 4:00, 4:30, 6:40, 8:30, 9:15. Sat 11:45, 12:15, 12:45, 4:00, 4:30, 6:40, 8:30, 9:15. Mon-Thurs 11:45, 12:15, 4:00, 4:30, 6:40, 8:30, 9:15. Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children

CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE — PG
Fri, Mon-Thurs 11:40, 3:30, 4:00, 6:30, 7:05, 9:30, 10:00. Sat 11:40, 3:30, 4:00, 6:30, 7:05, 9:30, 10:00. Sun 11:40, 3:30, 4:00, 6:30, 7:05, 9:30, 10:00. May frighten young children

SYRIANA — 14A
Fri-Sun 7:45. Violence

HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE — PG
Fri-Sat, Mon-Thurs 11:30, 3:15, 6:55. Sun 3:15, 6:55. Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children

WALK THE LINE — PG
Fri 12:10, 3:40, 6:50, 10:05. Sat 12:10, 3:40, 6:50, 10:05. Sun 12:10, 3:40, 6:50, 10:05. Mature theme, not recommended for young children

CHICKEN LITTLE — G
Fri-Sat, Mon-Thurs 11:55, 2:00. No passes

RUMOR HAS IT... — PG
Sun 4:05, 7:25, 9:55. Mon-Thurs 12:05, 2:25, 4:05, 7:25, 9:55. Not recommended for young children, mature theme

WOLF CREEK — 14A
Sun 5:00, 7:30, 10:05. Mon-Thurs 12:10, 2:35, 5:00, 7:30, 10:05. Brutal violence, disturbing content

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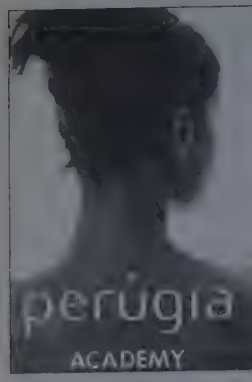

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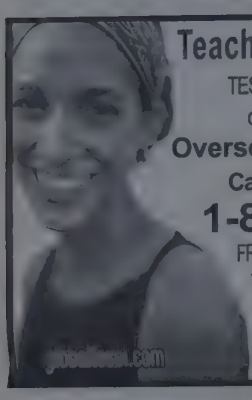

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PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE ARE PROFESSIONAL MASSAGE THERAPY BUSINESSES AND ARE STRICTLY NON-SEXUAL.

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Looking for Esthetician who has good clientelle and **Experienced Tatto Technician.** Room available for Rent or Commision
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SHARED ACCOMMODATION

bachelor, 1 & 2 Bedroom for rent Dishwasher & laminate flooring starts $300/month 10630-105st and 12036-66st 637-1494 or [illegible]

Roommate Wanted Beautiful house near University Seven appliances, satellite, internet. $435/mo plus Utils. 7126-108 St www robyndoyle com call Robyn [illegible]

Looking For an alternative to renting? Interested in Community Spirit? Call Keegano Housing Cooperative. 463-1902

Spacious 2 bedroom basement suite, fully renovated, close to LRT, NAIT and Grant MacEwan Utilities included $650 or fully furnished $850. Available now Phone Ian (780)904 4403

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FIRST TIME BUYERS - Why rent when you can own? Free list of homes available with no money down. 1-888-240-0235 Ext 1051

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Advertise Your Custom Home For Sale in SEE Magazine. Call Janice [illegible]

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MALE DANCERS WANTED will train no exp. necessary. Athletic or muscular build required.Email info: joey@telusplanet net (780)-951-1373

Mature, responsible person with great computer skills needed for Office assistant/ Hostess. FT/PT Benefits, Great Bonuses, some travel. Fax Resume att: Paul 433-8476, or call 906-1977

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1 day a week, every Thursday
Must have own vehicle
Fax or email Resume to Kevin Law
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klaw@see.greatwest.ca

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Seeking reliable help for fabrication/ warehouse duties $10.00/hr start, immediate advancement opportunities.
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$$$ CASH MONEY DAILY $$$ Escort and massage service has openings for young reliable females. Take a break from the normal 9 to 5 or food service jobs and make abnormal money. If you're adventurous and open-minded, call 780-496-2428 for more information. (Press zero twice for operator)

Discreet Magazine Edmonton's Premiere Men's Magazine is looking for Dynamic sales professional with an energetic personality. At least 2 years experience in advertising sales. We offer a Generous remuneration package. **Contact Terry: discreetmag@shaw.ca** [illegible]

CLASS #1 tank truck drivers with off road experience. Catered camp job. Two weeks on and one week off. Full-time. Fax resume with references: 780-523-5833.

MURRAY GM Fort St. John, BC - technicians required. Due to expansion and high volume, we require medium duty and automotive journeymen. Excellent compensation for qualified people. Experience small city living at its best. Contact Warren MacDougall 1-250-785-8005 or 1-800-811-1555. Fax 1-250-785-5122. Email: warren@murraygmbc.com.

Entry level positions available at local environmental group. Canvassers required for Edmonton area. Weeknights from 5-9 pm. Please call Nick @ [illegible]

A & B OILFIELD Construction to fill positions for superintendents, foremen, heavy equipment operators, pipefitters, plastic pipe fusers, labourers Resumes: Box 70, Sedgewick, AB, T0B 4C0 Fax 780-384-2402 or jobs@abpipeliners.com

HELP WANTED

ACADIA FOUNDATION requires full-time Manager, Hanna Senior Lodge, Hanna, Alberta. Manager responsible for operation of 50 senior resident lodge Duties include supervision, training staff, administrative duties. Wage grid, benefit package Resume by January 6, 2006. Fax 403-664-3304. Mail Box 96, Oyen, AB, T0J 2J0

ALBERTA PRESS COUNCIL - Secretary Treasurer. The Alberta Press Council is a non profit society which serves as the regulatory agency for member newspapers in the Province of Alberta. The Council's role is to deal with complaints from the public about news and commentary carried in its member papers and to speak out in support of freedom of the press. The Secretary Treasurer reports to a board of directors made up of representatives of the public and the newspaper industry and is responsible for the administration of the Council's day to day operations. The successful candidate for this part-time contract position will have exceptional oral and written communication skills for clerical and research tasks. Financial reporting qualifications and computer competency are a must. All enquiries and applications will be received by the Chair until January 7, 2006 at: rwilson@telusplanet.net Subject heading: Secretary Treasurer Please include a cover letter, resume and the names and contact information for three references

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CARLAN SERVICES LTD. requires pipefitters, foreman/labourers, and welders for oilfield maintenance and construction. Fax resume 780-706-3917, Whitecourt.

DRAYTON VALLEY oilfield service company requires a Controller to manage accounting department. Responsibilities will include supervision of 6 accounting staff in processing of A/R, A/P and payroll, preparation of financial statements and G/L account reconciliations. The ideal candidate would have a professional designation (CMA, CA or CGA) with a minimum of 5 years related experience. Strong computer and organizational skills are essential. Experience with Simply Accounting would be an asset. Forward resume to our accountants. Ellis, Govenlock Chartered Accountants, #2, 9363 - 50 St., Edmonton, AB, T6B 2L5. Fax 780-454-0588. Email: sallen@egca.ab.ca.

DRIVER NEEDED. Position available for busy equipment rental company in High River. Candidate will be responsible for deliveries and pickups throughout southern Alberta. Class 1 drivers abstract required. Very competitive wage, benefits and bonus plan. Please submit resume by fax to 403-652-1011 or email lon@highriverrentals.com.

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EXPERIENCED GRAPHIC Artist required for evening shift, Sunday to Wednesday in Stony Plain Quark XPress and Photoshop skills essential. Fax resume to Jim 780-963-9716.

HELP WANTED

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GLOVER INTE[illegible] Trucks requires hea[illegible] technician. 2nd yea[illegible] man with truck exp[illegible] industry wages and [illegible] ply to: Kent Milgate [illegible] Crescent, Airdrie. A[illegible] Fax 403-948-76[illegible] kent.milgate@glover[illegible]

HALLIBURTON. He[illegible] chanics. Full-time [illegible] Grande Prairie. M[illegible] Lloydminster. Yo[illegible] sibilities will includ[illegible] spection and ma[illegible] various oilfield equ[illegible] neyman and appren[illegible] comed. Halliburto[illegible] petitive wages and [illegible] apprentices enjoy [illegible] and paid tuition wh[illegible] school! Please send [illegible] to: bonnie.snair@ha[illegible] or fax to 403-347-924[illegible]

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MAILHOT INDUST[illegible] ton requires Hyd[illegible] Serviceman. Ticket [illegible] must be mechanica[illegible] Will train. Monday F[illegible] resume: Attentio[illegible] Email: ga[illegible] tindustries.com Fax [illegible] 3434.

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NORTHERN ALBERTA G[illegible] ership seeking licensed [illegible] tive technicians. General M[illegible] experience preferred. E[illegible] group benefits. Resu[illegible] George, Adventure Auto[illegible] Box 8200, Fairview, AB [illegible] 1L0.

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OWNER/OPERATORS, B[illegible] to $2.05/mile! Good truck[illegible] ed to pull step-decks [illegible] $2.05/mile! 8 positions a[illegible] U.S./Canada freight. Full [illegible] licence, insurance and [illegible] provided. Lots of miles. [illegible] inquiries only. Call 1-8[illegible] 0495 or 1-306-642-[illegible]

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MANAGER position immediately. Be a part team environment ent pay and bonus are personable, pro- and able to multi-task, be the job for you! omit your resume by 4011 or email at lo- entals.com

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CANADA currently spection Trainees er, Provost, Alberta). experience required. work out of town in- resume 780-980- mail jobscana-

HELP WANTED

WANTED: Heavy Duty Mechanic for Fort Nelson trucking company. Must have valid driver's licence and able to work independently. Have modern shop and service truck. Fax resume to 250-774-6248 or email: garycornish@northwestel.net

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Here to listen when life hurts.
The Support Network
www.thesupportnetwork.com

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SUPPORT FOR SMOKERS who are trying to quit. Call Nicotine Anonymous. Gwynn 443-3020 or Joan 423-1971 Wed night meetings

SUPPORT GROUPS

THE MANKIND PROJECT A men's group committed to personal growth, healing & community Call Dave 469-7341

VOLUNTEERS

Canada World Youth Amazing International Volunteer programs! Youth 17 - 24 Deadline January 15th, 2006 www.canadaworldyouth.org

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Brain Neurobiology Research at UofA seeks women suffering from POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION for studies 407-3906 Reimbursement provided

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Brain Neurobiology Research at UofA seeks study participants suffering from SEVERE PMS 407-3775 Reimbursement provided

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Brain Neurobiology Research at UofA seeks study participants suffering from PANIC ATTACKS 407-3221. Reimbursement provided

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Make a world of difference! Volunteer overseas with Youth Challenge International on a hands-on development project for 5 – 12 weeks. Ready to go next month? Next summer? Visit www.yci.org to find out more!

FRANCOPHONES NEEDED as volunteers to help with pre-school literacy programs for the African French-speaking community One Sat & Sun per month. Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers Suzanne 423-9677

GET TO know people from Edmonton's ethnic communities Volunteers needed for pre-school literacy evenings & weekends Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers Suzanne 423-9677

HELP immigrant youth improve their Math, English & Science Thursdays 3:30-5pm. Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers Suzanne 423-9677

DISTRESS LINE or Youthone .com Crisis Chat volunteers get excellent training, career-related skill development, rewarding experience AND ensure those in need will have someone **there to listen when life hurts.** Training starts in September Call the Support Network 732-6648 or www.thesupportnetwork.com

VOLUNTEERS

DO YOU drive? Do you wish to help others? We pay for the gas! Call 732-1221 for volunteer driving information

---

FREE BEER! Volunteers Needed to work at Rock and Blues events Please call Frank at 433-7460

Help SENIORS with activities at non-profit agency, cards, games Program volunteers needed Wednesdays Yvonne 434-4747

MENTOR FOR KIDS! Share your interests & friendship with children-at-risk who need positive role models. Evenings/weekends Lily 432-1137

Help us Read! Literacy tutors needed to assist adults with disabilities learn basic reading and writing. Flexible hours Training provided Lily 432-1137

Needed experienced and non-experienced volunteers to help organize Big Benefits Show Against Violence 907-3353

VOLUNTEER TUTORS needed Can you read this? Many can't! Share the gift of reading & change a life through literacy Call P.A.L.S 424-5514

Wanted Creative Executive Assistant with interest in Music and Entertainment Business, to organize functions. 922-3968

CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES is looking for enthusiastic volunteers. Flexible shifts Rewarding experience that helps save lives Please call 431-8740

SO YOU want to be a MODEL? Boys' & Girls' clubs of Edmonton in partnership with the Edmonton Young Offenders center are looking for caring adult role models Call Anne @ 422-6038 ext 208 or adeslauners@bgce ca

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Donna Martyn's NDP Campaign team needs volunteers with progressive ideas who want to make a difference in federal election. Variety of skills/ interests 486-2443

HEALTHY Volunteers required for research studies with the Brain Neurobiology Research Program at UofA Call 407-3775 or 407-3221. Reimbursement provided

VOLUNTEERS

BRAIN Neurobiology Research Program at UofA seeks individuals suffering from **severe PMS** for research study Call 407-3775 Reimbursement provided

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BRAIN Neurobiology Research Program at UofA seeks individuals suffering from **social phobia** for research study Call 407-3221 Reimbursement provided

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BRAIN Neurobiology Research Program at UofA seeks individuals suffering from **panic attacks** for research study 3221 Reimbursement provided

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Brain Neurobiology Research Program UofA, seeks individuals who recently delivered/ suffering from **POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION** for research 407-3906 Reimbursement provided

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Volunteers Needed! Assist new immigrants on first time shopping trip for essentials. Mornings weekdays 424-3545

Volunteers Needed to teach English to adult immigrants. Daytime, weekdays. Great Experience! Call Judy 424-3545

Volunteers Needed to teach simple Canadian recipes to newly arrived immigrants. Occasional Saturdays Call Judy 424-3545

The Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton needs volunteer to take calls on our 24 Hour Crisis Line. Self-determined hours, work from home Training provided Call 423-4102 for info

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Volunteers Needed! Teach conversational English to adult immigrants at a public library 1-2 days/ week 424-3545

OPERATION RED NOSE needs volunteers For more information call 702-8000 or go to www.orn-edm.org

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Call 454-0701 and see how you can help to open the gate to community living!

Local Food Basket Seeks Volunteers Wecan Food Basket a not - for - profit society that provides the opportunity for people on fixed or limited incomes to access quality nutritious food at affordable prices, needs volunteers in the Bonnie Doon area to assist in processing food orders Call 413-4525

VOLUNTEERS

Getting to medical appointments [illegible] to Home Care clients [illegible] a Volunteer Driver & make a personal difference [illegible] 496-1341

[illegible] Groceries & shopping [illegible] clients in [illegible] area require volunteers. 496-[illegible]

Make a Difference [illegible] would appreciate a [illegible] to accompany her on [illegible] outings. 496-130[illegible]

[illegible] CARE volunteers visit isolated neighbors, go for walks help with errands. Call Capital [illegible] 496-[illegible]

THE SEXUAL Assault Center of Edmonton [illegible] our 24-hour Crisis Line. Next training begins Jan 18/05 Call Heather 423-4102

YOU CAN make a difference!! Volunteer! Canadian born? Canadian-by-choice? Call 425-7869 or www newhomecentre org

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Become a Distress Line Volunteer! Your help will ensure those in need will have someone who is there to listen when life hurts Training classes in January, May September & November www thesupportnetwork com or [illegible]

MEN SEEKING MEN

Guy seeks in-shape guys under 40 for friendship and Massage practice 421-7996

I SAW YOU

Where is my Sugar Daddy? Email me at spoilcanukgirl@hotmail.com

---

Dear C.H. - Are you back from Japan yet? Just curious [illegible]

Heys Chester, I heard you want a deep fried candy cane for Christmas. Give me a call. Voya!!!

New City crowd, staff/ partyers You guys are great, thanks for returning my camera. Nice Ass pic Extra thanks to the hot staff guy who let me in & helped me get it back

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Telus pasta bar, December 1... I'll buy you a salad brown eyes 962@mail.com

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To place your FREE "I Saw You" call 430-9003!

Mr Nielsen, saw you at West Edmonton Mall, Dec 17th at Booster Juice & LeKnome Disappointed I didn't get a name/ number. E-mail me scandia girl@yahoo ca

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HO HO HOLD ME! Merry Christmas

Scuba Cuba Christie with the dog from Downtown I don't see you on the bus anymore - Sean

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Centred (First Line).....$2.00 + GST
(Each additional) .....$0.50 + GST
Blank Line .....$2.00 + GST

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Remember this is an 18+ section.
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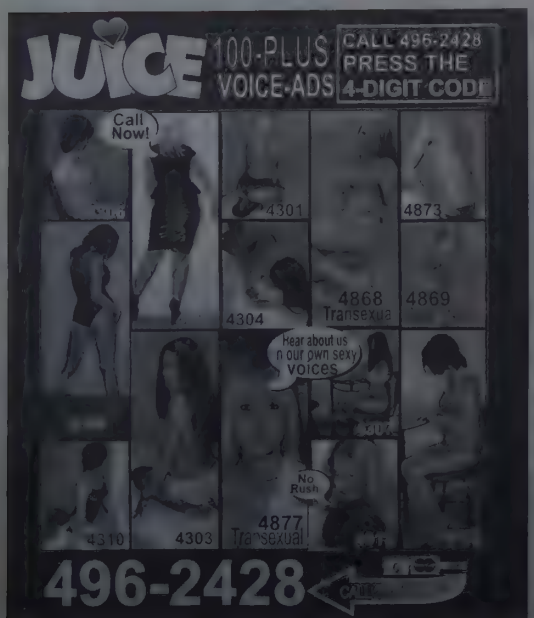
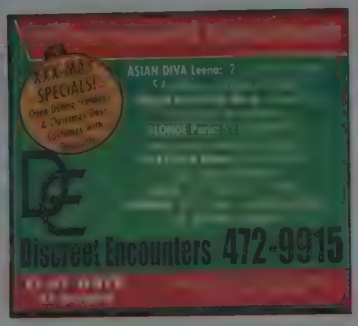


Female Escorts



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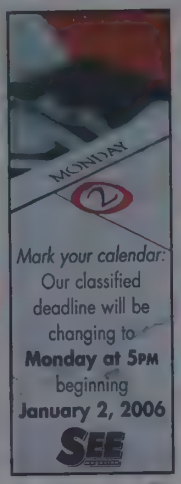

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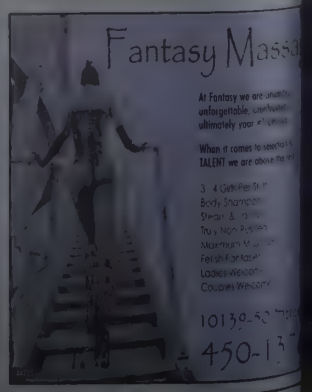

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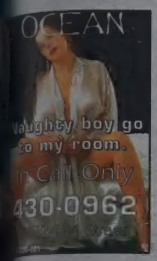

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Messy

Continued from page 46

Your mom buys your date a really ugly sweater for Christmas. You:

a) Force your honey to wear it and then giggle maniacally every time he does.
b) She wears it to bed that night with nothing underneath.
c) You come across it later in a bucket full of rags your date uses to clean the floor.

If you answered mostly a's, er, passive aggressive much? Hide any sharp objects and you two might just make it through.
If you answered mostly b's, dust off your copy of *It's a Wonderful Life* and warm up some rum and cider. You guys will make everyone sick with your holiday bliss.

If you answered mostly c's, get out now and use the money you were gonna spend on your date to invest in some therapy.

Happy Holidays and Good Luck!

CONGRATULATIONS to Twyla M., the winner in our "Joy to the World" cocktail contest who—along with many, many of you—sent in the correct ingredients:

1 1/2 oz. anejo rum
1/2 oz. bourbon whiskey
1/2 oz. dark creme de cacao

Stir in a shaker half filled with ice and then strain into a glass.

Twyla can enjoy her cocktail while reading her copy of *Merry XXXmas Erotica*, *The Best of the Best Women's Erotica* and *The Best of the Best Lesbian Erotica*, all from Cleis Press. Thanks to all who entered!

joseyvogels.com

CRUISIN' THE COSMOS

with THE KID

DECEMBER 22-28

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)
Before holdin' onto your stuff at any price, remember the gods love a good sacrifice. That's why this week, when you walk up to the table, you oughtta lay down everything you are able to. Luck ain't just about the odds you get, it's also how the payoff is bigger the more that you bet!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)
How can you be workin' while your heart's constantly jerkin' you around from place to place, tellin' you where you want to be? One thing's for sure – it ain't easy! If you can find the strength to concentrate on the task at hand and channel into it all of that stress, you'll be rewarded with astounding success!

PISCES (Feb. 19 – March 20)
You'd be a lot happier after your bubble's burst if you look at it as if you'd just been de-cursed. It may be loud and messy, but considerin' all that could occur, learnin' the truth is hardly the worst. In fact, you were gifted when the spell was lifted 'cause what you were missin' before, you can now plainly see — reality!

ARIES (March 21 – April 19)
It's dang cold for a Fire sign where you're standin', which just happens to be on the thin ice of a lonely lake, so think twice for your own sake before gettin' hot under the collar. If you melt it and fall through, no one'll hear you holler and come to save you. This week, no matter how upset you get, stayin' cool's your best bet!

TAURUS (April 20 – May 20)
Stubborn bulls don't take to change all that well, especially when they think things are swell. Maybe you need a better view. This week, twist your thick neck and look around before addin' more tears to the ones you've already cried. Sometimes the grass really is greener on the other side!

GEMINI (May 21 – June 20)
If you wanna make it through the week relatively unfrazzled, look at it like one big long rush hour — you're still movin', even if it is hurry-up-and-wait. Before you degenerate into hate and road rage like a rat in a fully-crammed cage, remember that, unlike the rat, you'll get outta this one before you die of old age!

CANCER (June 21 – July 22)
Don't sweat it if folks can't recognize that you rule — it don't mean that you ain't smart, sexy and cool. It just means you're ahead of the game and their observational skills are obviously lame. Besides, there's more than one person on the face of the Earth who knows just how much you really are worth!

LEO (July 23 – Aug. 22)
You're both your bestest asset and worstest enemy and meditatin' on that'll help you to see there's a price you pay when you fight to be free. You may think your sword's your friend, but what'll you do when your own blade gets turned against you? The more you hack and slash, the more you open yourself to backlash!

VIRGO (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)
Don't seek so much security that you stick yourself in a castle from which you can't break free. Sometimes crossin' the moat means rockin' the boat and that might mean bringin' some folks down a few pegs. Oh well, to make an omelet you've gotta break a few balls!

LIBRA (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)
It's automatic for you to be diplomatic, but if you walk on eggshells forever and always try to be fair, you ain't gonna get anywhere. This weekend, don't smother your fire by worryin' about what others desire. The Moon's in your sign, so do what you wanna do!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)
Maybe it's 'cause the Moon's in your sign, but when you're fishin' next week, you'll get a bite on your line. Now before you get excited and start frantically reelin', this here's a big catch with which you're dealin'. That means you'll still have to spend time tirin' it out before you get a trophy to flaunt!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)
This week, kick over the sandcastles you've built with glee 'cause that one simple action's gonna set your heart free. Y'see, you're not really happy unless you're startin' new expressions of creativity. Besides, they were just practice and the time is ripe for you to begin work on your new prototype!

You can contact The Kid at cruisinthecosmos@hotmail.com.

Testy time

The weather inside: frightful?

I'VE HAD AT LEAST THREE RELATIONSHIPS break up right before Christmas. In retrospect, it was much better to have ended things before the festivities. None of these pairing would have made it through. And better to go Christmas alone than find yourself trying to explain to your folks why your little-bit-too-jolly date is coming on to your little sister. So those of you who feel sorry for yourself because you have no one to do the mistletoe Mambo with or get inappropriate gifts from, take heart.

Those of you heading into the holidays à deux, take this quiz to see if your relationship will survive.

Your baby's idea of a great Christmas gift is:
a) His and Hers matching doorstoppers.
b) A romantic weekend away and a nude self-portrait.
c) Waiting until after Christmas "when everything's on sale" to get your gift.

You spent way more than your honey did on a present:
a) Tell them you understand he must not have realized you were giving each other all your presents now and that he no doubt has your other presents at home.
b) Feel confident that next year it'll be better and besides, it's the thought that counts.
c) He resells your gift on eBay at a profit.

One of you isn't Christian... how do you celebrate the holidays?
a) Say you'd be happy to celebrate Christmas, but only if afterwards, your honey spends New Year's with you at a Zen retreat where he or she must give up all worldly possessions and chant for eight hours a day.
b) Light the menorah and spin the dreidel for a few hours before exchanging gifts on Christmas morning.
c) Your date tells you to get over it. She's not about to let a little thing like someone else's religion spoil her holiday.

You catch your date smooching someone under the mistletoe at the office party:
a) Conveniently "run" into the smoochee in the bathroom and start complaining about how much of a drag your holiday is going to be because your sweetie—"yeah, that's right the one you were kissing"—has mono.
b) Ask if you can be next.
c) You dropkick both of them and when they fall to the floor, they start dry humping.

MY MESSY BEDROOM

JOSEY VOGELS

You go shopping together for something for your mothers:
a) You give yourselves a time limit and head to the mall and end up leaving with two pairs of Isotoner slippers.
b) You spend a wonderful afternoon looking for just the right thing and finally settle on gifts you both agree will be perfect for each of them.
c) Your honey suggests you start at the sex shop.

Christmas with your date's family is:
a) An organizational nightmare that ends up being an exercise in seeing who you can piss off the most as you try to fit in visits to all four sets of parents because both your parents are divorced.
b) Better than Christmas with your own family.
c) Like having a Christmas tree, ornaments and all, shoved up your butt.

You're both totally stressed out about the holidays, how do you deal with it?
a) He asks you if you have PMS. You ask him if he'd like to go for a walk—by himself.
b) You let each other vent, then run a hot bath, crack open a bottle of wine, open the box of chocolates meant for someone else and feed them to each other your toes.
c) Cyanide.

Holiday cheer means what to your date?
a) Going out for drinks with his friends, when you finish up the Christmas shopping.
b) Sharing a special bottle of wine you've been saving all year for the holiday.
c) A six pack, a bottle of J.D., and several lines of blow.

Decorating the tree together gives you the opportunity to:
a) Eventually get the job done, but not without arguing over differing tinsel-hanging techniques, and having one of you yell "Fine, do it yourself then!" and plopping down on the couch to drink wine while continuing to criticize the other's tree-trimming.
b) Bond over your similar taste in decorations while you string popcorn and share warm fuzzy memories of tree decorating as a child.
c) Find out how neat glass Christmas ornaments sound when they pop when hitting a wall because you missed your honey's head when his constant whining about what a waste of time this all is finally makes you snap.

What best describes the relationship you have with your date's family?
a) They welcome you but constantly make references to your date's last love and how much they miss him or her and wish you were still together.
b) They treat you like a member of the family and often give you better presents than they give your date.
c) They ask you to wait in the car while they give their son or daughter their gifts.

See Messy, page

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way in a manger

ss-than-miraculous deflowerings

ACCUSED OF WAGING A WAR ON by the pro-Christmas lobby—oh, would I do if the all-powerful at the American Family Associa- for a boycott of Savage Love?— ting a heartwarming selection of my-virginity horror stories submit- readers.

ds these stories have to do with Well, wasn't Jesus Christ respon- e most traumatic how-I-lost-my-vir- r story ever told? Not His deflow- ation His mother's. As everyone ery was a virgin when she con- d a virgin when she gave birth. , of course, that Jesus busted His 's hymen, kicking it down like a His way into the world. And you ur first time was traumatic!

an 18-year-old virgin with visions ood movie sex—perfect lighting s, climax together, etc. Instead, netration made the same impres- tampon, and ended so quickly s sure he hadn't come. I was he faked it, so I broke up with xt day. About a month later I dis- e hadn't faked his orgasm: I was After the abortion, I was a tad t the sex thing: fucking = preg-

Fucking Happily Now

y cherry popped when I was 15 by a 22-year-old man. We were on a reclining plastic pool chair. old him I wanted to do it, he ght in. The initial pain gave way g of pressure "down there." I ought that maybe if I let my body s pressure, I would get my big go of the pressure... and immedi- d peeing. It flowed through the and hit the concrete beneath us stream. Try stopping your flow hile you are being pumped. You d a million deaths while he fin- en it was over, I asked him how ut being my first. "Well, sleeping rgin is kind of a pain in the ass," quickly followed by, "Did you

Pool Party G

After the stereotypical first fumbling experience, which lasted about three minutes before I shot my wad, I laid down next to my girlfriend (failing to notice how very disappointed she looked), stroked her hair, and asked, "How many times did you come?"

MN

SAVAGE LOVE
DAN SAVAGE

By 19 I was eager to lose my virginity, not yet having discovered my Sapphic proclivity. I turned down some enthusiastic offers (dear, sweet Tag!), and instead chose a cycling maniac like myself. I remember being under-impressed with the event ("Is that all there is?") and he seemed disappointed that I didn't bleed. After we finished, the condom came off his flaccid dick INSIDE ME. I freaked and ran to the bathroom. The whole household got involved with suggestions and solutions. Looking back, it's pretty funny, but I was mortified at the time.

Bike Geek Love

It's so common that it's a cliché: A girl loses her virginity and thinks, "Is that it?" Except that I'm a boy. I had expected that it would feel amazingly better than jerking off or blowjobs, but it didn't. So when she asked me what I thought, I wanted to say, "Is that it?" But I decided to soften the blow while telling the truth. "Um... I've, ah... had better," I said.

Bzzzt! WRONG!

Naked Cuddling Rocks

I lost my virginity during a one-night stand to a goofy guy I met my freshman year at Washington State University. The relationship didn't work out, and I relayed my woes to my brother. A few weeks later, my family came to visit for "Mom's Weekend." While we were shopping at the mall I saw the goofy guy. I went to my brother and said, "That's the guy I lost my virginity to." My brother couldn't spot him, so I kept loudly pointing the boy out until a woman next to me said, "You mean my son John?" When she looked at me with that same goofy smile, I knew that she was definitely his mother. Ouch!

Still Shamed

Four years ago I lost it in a boy-girl-boy three-way on a cruise ship. The girl was 16, the other boy was 17, and I was 15, gay and closeted. In the girl's parents' cabin, the other boy fucked the girl first. When it was my turn the girl noticed that I was staring at the other guy while I was fucking her. "Are you gay?" she suddenly asked. I was so shocked that I couldn't say anything. Then she started screaming, "Oh my God, you are! You gave me AIDS!" She pushed me off, the other boy jumped up, pulled on his shorts, and then punched me in the face for looking at him. Then he made me wash my dick, which had his come on it, because he didn't want me "tasting his sperm" after they threw me out. The best part? This happened on the first night and I was trapped on the ship with them for another week. Oh, and I had to make up a story for my parents about how I fell and broke my nose on the Fiesta Deck.

My Crooked Nose Looks Sexy

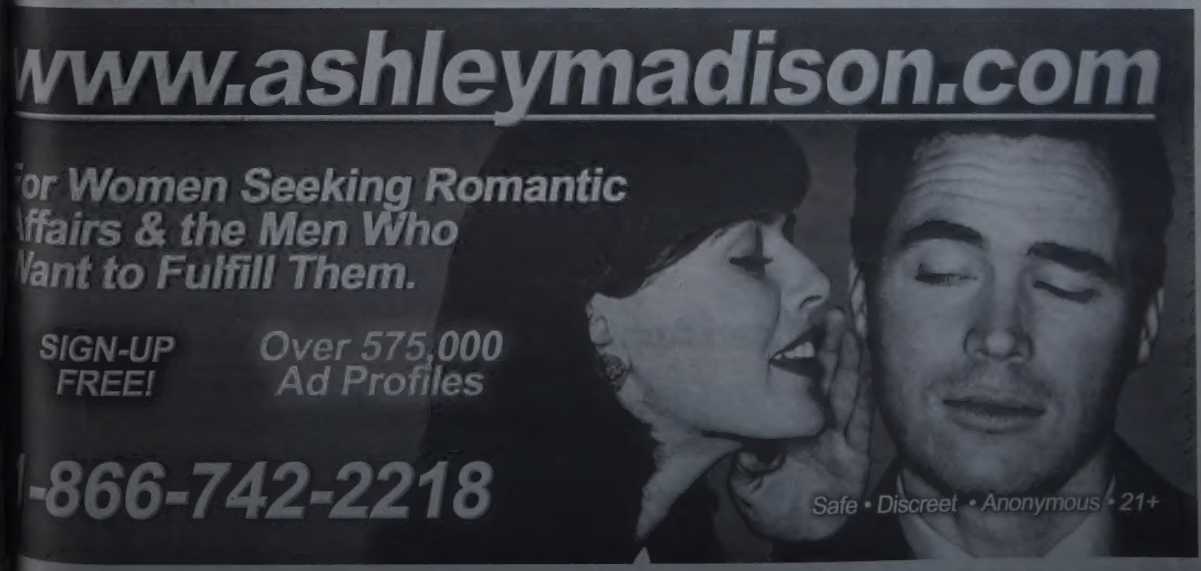
My boyfriend and I decided to consummate our relationship. Everything started okay, until I was hit with a blinding pain. I crawled to the bathroom where the pain caused me to start puking. He asked what was wrong, and I told him to get the fuck out of my house. I called my mom at work. She explained that the first time hurts and thanked me for sharing. In between hurling, I said that this couldn't be normal. She told me to get to a hospital. My boyfriend came back and carried me to the car. After having every resident in the ER stick his hand up me and having two orderlies hold my knees apart so they could stick what looked like a dildo in me for an ultrasound, they determined that the sex had caused a cyst on my ovary to rupture. The doctors thanked me for making them part of my first time. I was too doped up to say go fuck yourselves. Do I win?

First Time Not All That

No, FTNAT, you don't win. Mary Mother of God wins—but I'd say you come in a damn-close second, with MCNLS a close third.

Readers who want more virginity horror stories can find them at www.thestranger.com/savage/vhs. Readers who want to know more about the War on Christmas can read all about it at www.fuckchristmas.org. And, as many readers wrote in to point out, by the time last week's column came out, Ford reversed itself. Like Kraft, the car company told the gay haters at the American Family Association where to stick their boycott, and announced that they would continue to advertise in gay publications and sponsor gay events. A very nice Christmas gift to us all.

mail@savagelove.net



The New American Leisure

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